**FRIDAY MAY 9, 2008** Volume XVIII, Issue No. 130

# **OPINION METER**

### This week's poll:

Do you plan to visit the Taste of the **Marianas festival** this year?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com

# INSIDE



# **Barracks Repair**

Spc. Loren Dauterman found something good to say about the fallingapart floors and ceilings in her quarters. Barely.

NATION...Page 27



# **Death Toll**

A top U.S. diplomat warned that the Myanmar death toll from a devastating cyclone could top 100,000.

ASIA...Page 28



**Torch in Everest** 

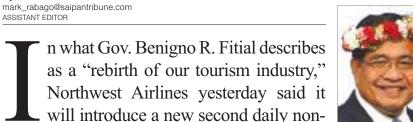
The Olympic flame reached the top of the world Thursday.

WORLD...Page 29

# **NWA** to double daily Tokyo flights

 $m{4}$  This is the most important single step forward for the rebirth of our tourism industry.  $m{7}$ 

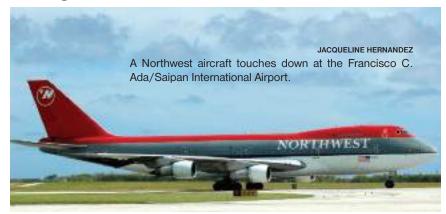
-Gov. Benigno R. Fitial



stop service between Tokyo's Narita Airport



See NWA on Page 4



# Dismissal of Fund's claim denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By MARK RABAGO

and Saipan.

The Superior Court has denied the CNMI government's motion to dismiss one of the NMI Retirement Fund's causes of action in the lawsuit that seeks to compel the Finance Department to give the Fund the \$119.6 million it is owed.

Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama ruled



that as the pleadings and arguments stand right now, the Fund has alleged its claims with enough particularity to withstand a motion to dismiss. He said the government has not disproved any of the facts presented in the Fund's lawsuit.

The Fund has shown enough facts through its pleadings that support a legal theory which would en-

See DISMISSAL on Page 4

# Residents upset over new power rates

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Many residential customers have expressed shock and are upset over the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s recent decision to double the power rates.

**RELATED NEWS** 'Change lifestyle to cope with high power rates'

PAGE 5

"It's very depressing!" court marshal John K. Atalig told Saipan Tribune yesterday.

Upon learning of the increase, Atalig said he told his

See RESIDENTS on Page 4



Department of Public Works personnel Rev Lisua, Joe Castro and Dennis Davis work on removing the decades-old structure that children used as a jump off zone at the Sugar wife to disconnect their one Dock in Chalan Kanoa yesterday afternoon. The project is being done to prevent any incident that may result from the hazard.

Confirmed snake sighting at memorial park. PAGE 6 50 Saipan bridled white-eyes released on Sarigan. PAGE 7

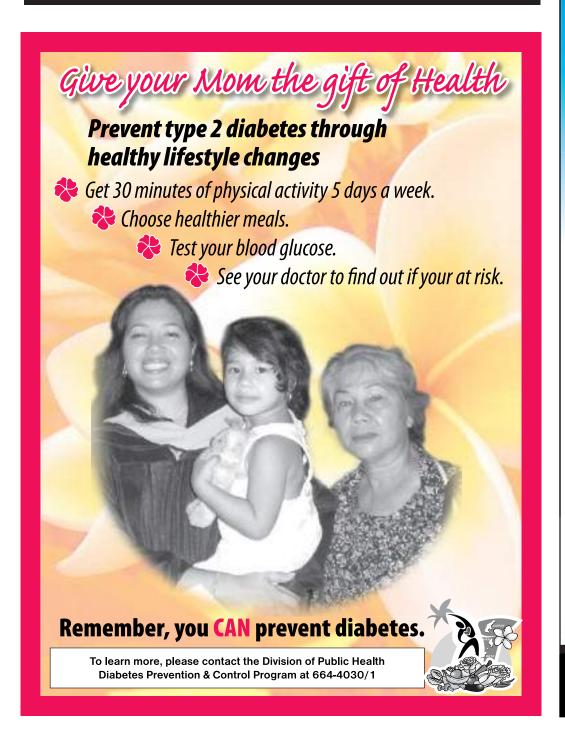
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2 FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# "I love going to Marianas Eye Institute"





# Local

# 'CIP money used to stir economy'

The new chief of the Department of Public Works has pledged to make sure that money for capital improvement projects are spent to spur the local economy.

Acting DPW Secretary Diego Songsong said it is one of his priorities to properly spend the millions of dollars of CIP funds provided the Commonwealth by U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, the Federal Highway Administration and other U.S. agencies.

"Because of the current state of the CNMI economy, my main task now is to spend CIP money

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administered by DPW to help stimulate the local economies of the three major islands of the CNMI," said Songsong, who is awaiting Senate confirmation of his appointment.

"And to accomplish that task, DPW has to utilize best management practices in the processing of capital improvement projects. Outsourcing of critical tasks such as design works, construction management etc. should be expanded in order to fast track the projects' implementation." he added.

In his State of the Com-

monwealth Address last week, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said the administration is expediting the drawdown of federal CIP funds.

He reported that since he took office, the Commonwealth drew down a total of \$51 million. That amount represents 46 percent of the cumulative balance available for the CNMI's use.

He also bared a plan to use within the next six months about \$39 million of the CIP funds toward "projects that will stimulate the economy." He did not specify what those projects are. But he promised that by Spring 2009, the CNMI will have an infrastructure plan in place to satisfy the requirements to qualify for future water and wastewater infrastructure funding from the federal government. (Agnes E. Donato)

**POWERED BY YOU** 



# 2nd suspect in cable theft case gets 19-day jail term

The Superior Court yesterday imposed a 19-day prison term on the second of three persons accused of stealing telephone cables owned by the Pacific Telecommunications Inc.

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced the 32year-old Erwin Evance to one year in jail, all suspended except for 19 days, for criminal mischief.

Following a plea agreement, Manglona gave Evance 19 days credit for the time he has already served in jail.

Evance was therefore released yesterday.

The judge placed the defendant on one-year probation and required him to pay jointly with co-defendants \$481 in restitution.

Evance was ordered to pay a \$100 fine and a \$25 court assessment fee and perform 80 hours of community work service.

He was ordered to write a letter of apology to PTI and Saipan Mayor's Office, through Mayor Juan T. Tudela and the general manager respectively.

The Attorney General's Of-

fice charged Evance and Jesse S. Peredo with felony theft, conspiracy to commit theft, and criminal mischief.

A juvenile was also charged separately.

Peredo and the juvenile had also pleaded guilty.

Evance signed a plea agreement and pleaded guilty to criminal mischief.

According to the plea agreement, on June 14, 2007, Evance along with other persons caused damage to PTI's telephone cables located at the Saipan Mayor's Office. (Ferdie de la Torre)







# Safety for Floors, Tubs & Showers

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# **Golden Harvest hosts annual sportsfest**



The Golden Harvest International School celebrated its 5th Annual Sportsfest & Family Day last Saturday, May 3, 2008 at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion and Beach Park.

It started with a parade of colors participated in by the school administrators, students, parents, teachers, and visitors, followed by the lighting of the torch. Everybody enjoyed the different games prepared for the students and parents.

The graders showcased a colorful mass demonstration under the direction of the P.E. teacher, Bona Angeles, coordinated by Meliza Umali. All the teachers and staff were equally commendable for their untiring support to make the

affair a success.

The GHIS family and visitors shared a variety of sumptuous delicacies brought by all the parents, PTSA officers, teachers and administrators.

The event was highlighted by the awarding of medals and trophies to the teams that participated in the games. The Red Team was proclaimed the Champion of the Year.





### **BIRTHDAY GIRL** Happy 7th Birthday to our beautiful daughter, Thea Carreon. Greetings coming from your Daddy Ronald & Mommy Jeng. contributed Photo



# RESIDENTS

From Page 1

air-conditioner and take out the bulbs in some rooms.

The family used to have four electric fans and one air-conditioner. Because of the skyrocketing new rate, Atalig said they are now using just two electric fans and no air-conditioner.

"So now it's just like we're working for CUC. It's the worst time," said Atalig, a father of two.

At the previous rate of 17.6 cents per kilowatt-hour, he was already paying an average of \$180 to \$190 a month.

Before, they would go to the beach or some other places almost every weekend, but now they hardly go anywhere in order to cut on expenses.

"The lifestyle now is very hard," he complained.

CUC had explained that the new rates are necessary to reflect the true cost of producing power. The utility agency blames the current high cost of oil as the culprit behind the move to adjust the rates.

For deputy marshal Jess Santos, however, the sudden increase is just "ridiculous."

Santos who has five children and paid \$300 to \$400 a month at the previous

According to court records, on Dec.

17, 2001, the CNMI government and

the Fund signed a memorandum of

agreement whereby the government

was to make regular bi-weekly pay-

ments to the Fund in the amount of

In return, the Fund agreed to refrain

The Fund's agreement not to pursue

legal action was contingent upon the

government's continued payments of

both regular employer contributions

and the monthly \$500,000 payment to

On Jan. 11, 2006, the Fund, through

the chairman of the Fund's board of

trustees, sent Fitial a letter informing

him of the government's failure to re-

mit employer contributions for the pre-

from taking any formal actions against

\$500,000 as employer contributions.

CNMI to recover all sums due.

settle arrears.

rate, pointed out that CUC announced the revision of the rates last Wednesday in the newspapers, but the effective date was last Saturday.

"They should announce it a week before so we're aware of it," he said.

Santos said he removed his freezer and is now using gas stove. The family uses the two air-conditioners only at

"Every night I monitor all the lights to make sure they are off. We are now using a lamp," Santos said. "It's very frustrating.'

Computer operator Christine Camacho has three children, all under five years old. She used to pay \$349 a month for power because she has two air-conditioners.

"When I saw the news on TV about the new power rates, I said, 'Holy cow, how are we going to do it now," said Camacho, adding that she had already availed of two extensions just to pay her last billing.

She said she has been using two paychecks to cover her electric bill.

"There is no consideration to people who are earning the minimum wage," Camacho said.

She said she is not using a rice cooker

anymore and uses a gas stove instead. A father of two children who requested anonymity said the increase is just "horrible." He asked whether the sudden increase is being implemented because people will be getting the stimulus checks.

"This is a scam to get peoples' money!" the resident said. "It's like we're working to pay the power."

He said that at the previous rate, their billings reached \$180 to \$190 a month despite all the energy conservation that they initiated.

Under the new rates, their billings would increase to over \$300 to \$400.

"And that's only for power. How about our water, our gas, and our food? This is really ridiculous!" the resident added.

# DISMISSAL

From Page 1

title the agency to relief, said Lizama in the order he issued Tuesday.

The decision relates to the government's motion to dismiss the 11th cause of action in the lawsuit. That cause of action asked the court to issue a judgment or a writ of mandamus ordering Finance Secretary Eloy Inos to give the Fund the money it is owed.

As of Aug. 1, 2006, the CNMI government reportedly owed the Fund \$119.6 million.

In 2006, the Fund sued the government, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Department of Finance, and Inos for the government's alleged failure to remit the required payments.

vious three pay periods.

The government remitted the monthly payment of \$500,000 on Jan. 13, 2006. It made five more payments, with the final payments on March 30, 2006.

On April 28, 2006, the Fund's administrator wrote Inos a demand letter concerning the government's failure to remit employer contributions that to date exceeded \$85 million. On May 2, 2006, the Fund sent Finance another demand letter.

Fitial then signed into law Public Law 15-5, which suspended employer contributions to the Fund as of March 2006 until the end of fiscal year 2007.

### **Causes of action**

In its motion, the Fund requested many things from the court. Its 11<sup>th</sup> cause of action sought a court order compelling

Finance and Inos to pay the Fund for unpaid employer contributions and the payments due under a 2001 MOU between the Fund and the government.

The cause of action demanded payments due for 10 years of violations of the law, requiring allocation of 30 percent of the hotel occupancy tax and 20 percent of the alcoholic container excise tax.

The action also sought payments due for 13 years of violations of law requiring that the costs of retirement bonuses shall be borne by the employees' hiring authority, and where such funds are not available by the Fund, subject to reimbursement through appropriation.

In addition, the action demanded payments due for 17 years of violations of the law requiring the government to make contributions to the Fund for the special retirement annuities of governors and lieutenant governors.

The government asserted that there is no legal duty because Finance must follow legislative appropriations. It argued that disbursing funds for purposes not contained within the appropriations act is illegal. It also asserted that the Fund has an adequate remedy at law: money damages from the government.

In his order, Lizama said that if the Fund in this case could not prove any of the facts in support of a claim that would entitle it to relief, then dismissal of this cause of action would be proper.

"Because defendants brought the motion to dismiss, any allegations of material fact in the complaint are deemed to be true and construed in the light most favorable to the non moving party [Fund]," Lizama said.

# NWA

From Page 1

The new service from Tokyo, which begins on July 1, 2008, will operate a second Airbus A330 jet from Narita on a daily basis. The flight will carry 264 economy and 34 business class passengers, for a total of 298 seats.

This is expected to bring in over 60,000 additional Japanese passengers to the CNMI during the course of the year.

It also complements existing daily nonstop services to Saipan from three cities in Japan—Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya.

Last summer, the CNMI had only 14 weekly flights from Japan. Beginning July, it will have 28 weekly flights—double the number last year.

### Rebirth

According to Fitial the decision follows months of discussions between the CNMI government, senior Northwest Airlines executives, and key Japan travel agents.

"This is the most important single step forward for the rebirth of our tourism industry since Northwest Airlines agreed to re-launch daily flights from Osaka last December. ...[This] is the best proof of Northwest's incredible commitment to our islands."

Northwest's Japan managing director Jeffrey S. Bernier said the carrier is looking forward to the second daily flight to the Commonwealth. "We are pleased to offer our customers more convenient choices to enjoy the beauty of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

The company's Guam and Saipan general manager Richard A. Parsons echoed Bernier when he said, "We appreciate the support of the CNMI community and are pleased to be adding...daily services between Saipan and Tokyo. Northwest Airlines will contribute to the community by bringing more travelers from our Tokyo hub."

New tourists bringing in \$80M

Marianas Visitors Authority's board

of directors chair Jerry Tan said this will be the first time in CNMI history that an airline partner flies two daily services to the CNMI from the key Tokyo market. "It's truly a testament to the tremendous commitment that Northwest Airlines has shown to build traffic to our islands out of Japan," he said.

Tan said this new flight alone represents 30 percent of total Japan arrivals last year, "and is a massive boost to our tourism industry."

Tan said the CNMI is looking at the new flight bringing in over \$80 million in the next 12 months, based on an average spending of \$1,332 per Japanese tourist.

"[This] will have a huge positive impact on our MVA members, on the government's revenue base, and on the entire community. The MVA has invested steadily to market our islands in Japan as an ideal destination for Japanese tourists. Today this investment will be paid back many, many times over," said Tan.

# **Congratulations**

Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands chair Lynn A. Knight congratulated Northwest and the Fitial administration for this development, saying it augurs well for the islands' tourism industry.

"There's no doubt in my mind that the fastest impact to help improve our economy is to have a second daily flight from Japan, as this will bring in much-needed tourist numbers and the dollars they will spend on our islands. We believe the demand is there and we've been simply struggling with the lack of transportation to bring in more tourists from Japan. On behalf of HANMI, I want to offer our congratulations and sincere appreciation to Northwest Airlines on this major announcement," she said.

MVA director Yoichi Matsumura is elated. "The new second daily service from Tokyo is really wonderful and good news! I am very happy indeed with this good news and would like to support this with full and all-out

cooperation. Since it is a night flight, it is important to solicit the continued support from all sectors. This is really good news for all of us," he said.

Aqua Resort Club general manager Hiro Sugie seconded Matsumara, describing the second flight as "absolutely very helpful." He added that it will go a long way in strengthening the CNMI's tourism industry and encouraged all tourism players to work hard in keeping the existing daily flights from

Ken Kaku, Hyatt Regency Saipan Director for Marketing & Sales, said the CNMI needs to thank Northwest Airlines "a million times for their great effort and support even though under a difficult moment right after two large companies merged," he said, alluding the recent merger of Northwest and Delta Airlines.

Kaku said his hotel has launched special promotions for the Japanese market and hopes that Northwest will send the message to consumers about the new flights.

# 'Change lifestyle to cope with high power rates'

The newly appointed util- customers will not be charged source to the Commonwealth. efforts to repair fuel-efficient ity chief says many customers may have been shocked by the recent power rate hike, but they will just have to deal with it for now.

"The new rates might come as a shock for the residential customers, but the only solution to it for now is some modification to their lifestyle," Antonio Muna, executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., said Wednesday.

Power rates doubled after the governor signed into law a bill reversing the October 2007 rollback. From paying 17.6 cents per kWh during the past two months, residential

rates ranging from 37.3 cents to 48.4 cents per kWh.

CUC says the high rates result from the skyrocketing price of fuel to run the power plants.

Muna said CUC is looking for ways to grant relief to the customers, but it will not come in the form of artificially reduced rates.

"It doesn't mean we will go back to charging less than cost," he said.

Alternative energy, according to Muna, may be part of the solution. CUC has an active request for proposals from companies interested in providing a renewable power

It has been reported that more than a dozen firms have expressed interest. The deadline for submission of proposals is next Friday, May 16.

He said CUC also hopes that

engines would help bring fuel costs down.

Muna also said that the privatization of the power system is still an option. But the government would prefer to

pursue it when the repair work know, a viable, performing asset is complete.

"Hopefully, our efforts to make engines efficient will contribute to our future ability to attract the best companies to take over the power plants. As you

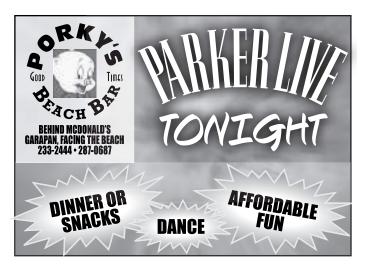
is more valuable than one that is not performing," he said.

A previous effort to privatize the power system was cancelled due to contractor protests over fairness. (Agnes E. Donato)

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# Confirmed snake sighting at memorial park

A confirmed snake sighting ed the snake as it slithered based USGS Rapid Response zones are currently being and but they are also expanding head that is noticeably larger was reported by a National Park Service employee at approximately 8pm on Thursday, May 1, 2008, to Department of Lands and Natural Resources-Division of Fish and Wildlife staff. DLNR-DFW responded at 8:15pm and began searching the area. On May 2, 2008 DLNR-DFW staff set up alert notices, snake traps and have begun conducting visual and canine searches in the area.

The sighting occurred directly across the street from the Smiling Cove Marina on American Memorial Park property. The witness reportalong a guide wire between two telephone poles. Although the witness observed the snake for about 2-3 seconds before the snake fled, he was very certain that it was a snake. The witness had recently been trained by the U.S. Geological Survey's Rapid Response Snake Team in Guam and was conducting a snake search around the park when he observed the

After DLNR-DFW staff conducted the snake-sighting interview on May 2, it was concluded that the sighting was credible and the GuamTeam was called in to assist. National Park Service also called in their trained snake searchers from Guam to assist during the response. On the evening of May 2, 2008, 18 trained snake searchers and one detector canine were at the scene searching for the snake.

DLNR-DFW has been working with the USGS Rapid Response Team and National Park Service in response to this snake sighting. The sighting location and the immediately adjacent areas have been surveyed and search zones have been established. These will continue to be intensively searched for several more weeks. Searches are being conducted at night by trained personnel and dog teams. In addition, several BTS detector dogs will be utilized during the day to attempt to locate the snake or at the very least narrow search efforts

The American Memorial Park is considered a highrisk site for a brown tree snake population due to its close proximity to the commercial seaport and excellent habitat for snakes. The Rapid Response Teams are looking for the sighted snake,

their search efforts to locate a snake population.

Division of Fish and Wildlife director Sylvan O. Igisomar is reminding residents that all snakes seen in the CNMI should be approached with caution and be reported immediately to the snake hotline 28-SNAKE (287-6253). If the snake sighted is confirmed as a brown tree snake, it may easily be killed by a blow to the head or body tree snakes are typically degreen in color, with yellowish bellies, a triangular shaped

than the neck, with vertical cat shaped pupils.

The brown tree snake was introduced on Guam in the 1940s and has since been responsible for the extinction of numerous bird and lizard species as well as frequent power outages. It also poses a health risk to infants. DFW reminds everyone that the CNMI has no native snake species. Therefore, it is extremely important to report with a heavy object. Brown all snake sightings to the DLNR-DFW immediately at scribed as brown to olive the brown tree snake Hotline at 670-28-SNAKE (670-287-6253). (**DFW**)





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# Saipan bridled white-eyes released on Sarigan



The Division of Fish and Wildlife and collaborating biologist from world-renowned zoos have completed the historic translocation of 50 Saipan bridled white-eyes, Nosa (*Zosterops conspicillata saypani*) to the island of Sarigan. The purpose of the translocations is to protect from extinction unique, endemic Mariana bird species that only occur on a few of the Mariana Islands.

The Nosa is found on Saipan, Tinian and Aguiguan but is extinct on Guam due to the invasive and introduced brown tree snake. Current research has shown that the population of the Nosa on Saipan has remained stable for the past 10 years. Therefore, it was as good candidate for the first experimental trial prior to pursuing translocations of birds that are declining more rapidly.

For several endemic birds, the Saipan population is crucial as it is the largest island of the Northern Mariana Islands and several bird species are limited in distribution throughout the islands. The Golden white-eye, Canario (Cleptornis marchei) is only found on Aguiguan and Saipan; the Tinian Monarch, Chichirikan Tinian (Monarcha takatsukasae) only found on Tinian; and the Nightingale Reed warbler, Gaga Karisu (Acrocephalus luscinia) only occurs on Saipan and Alamagan.

The 50 Saipan Nosa traveled via helicopter in wood boxes especially designed and custom-built by the curator of the Honolulu Zoo, Peter Luscomb.

ings and 13 documented BTS captures in the CNMI since 1982. The brown tree snake an introduced invasive predator harmful to native birds and humans—is responsible for the extinction on Guam of unique bird species found only in the Mariana Islands. The brown tree snake has cost Guam millions of dollars of public utility repair expenses annually, can be dangerous to children, has ruined any potential ecotourism based on unique fauna, and may have long term ecological consequence to the environment of Guam. (DFW)

A Saipan Bridled white-eye, Nosa feeds on the flower of *Erythrina* veriegate, Gaogao or Cotal Tree. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





# LABOR DEPARTMENT NOTICE OF HEARINGS PENDING AGENCY CASES



May 5, 2008 First Notice May 9, 2008 Second Notice

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Your claims will be heard at that time or continued to a date certain. Please bring any documentation necessary to the resolution of your claims or defenses to claims against you. If you fail to appear, or fail to bring documentation, your claims or defenses may be dismissed, and an administrative order may be entered against you.

THESE HEARINGS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING DEPARTMENT RECORDS WITH RESPECT TO PENDING CLAIMS. If your claims have been heard, settled, or withdrawn, or you do not wish to pursue your claim, you do not need to appear for the hearings on the schedule below.

If your case has already been resolved through a hearing on an individual labor case, the order in that case is binding and will be adopted in the agency case. There will be no different resolution through the agency case. If your case has been resolved through a settlement, or you are a claimant and wish to withdraw your claims, please call Jeffrey Camacho, Investigator, 236-0960, or come to the Enforcement Office at the Department of Labor.

| Case Number            | Employee                                   | Employer   | Hearing date                 | Time                     |
|------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 05-129-11              | Del Rosario, Norman G.                     |  | May 14, 2008                 | 8:30 a.m.                |
| 05-128-11              | Negara, Reymond G.                         |  | May 14, 2008                 | 8:30 a.m.                |
| 05-128-11              | Negara, Reyna F.H.                         |  | May 14, 2008                 | 8:30 a.m.                |
| 05-024-03              | Bonoan, Johnson G.                         | Aguon, Jose C.   | May 14, 2008                 | 8:30 a.m.                |
| 05-047-04              | Chen, Xinchun                              | Aguon, Reynaldo C. & Sun Mei Corp.   | May 14, 2008                 | 8:30 a.m.                |
| 05-047-04              | Ye, Sanyuan                                | Aguon, Reynaldo C. & Sun Mei Corp.   | May 14, 2008                 | 8:30 a.m.                |
| 05-038-03              | Sayson, Kimberly L.R.                      | AJ Ent., Inc. dba Grand Poker  | May 14, 2008                 | 8:30 a.m.                |
| 05-091-04<br>05-032-03 | Bautista, Alexander U. Estoque, Rodrigo P. | All Around Security Services, Inc. Aguino Printing   | May 14, 2008<br>May 14, 2008 | 8:30 a.m.<br>8:30 a.m.   |
| 05-032-03              | Bulanadi, Mechelle M.                      | ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-094-04              | Clapis, Analyn S.                          | ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-094-04              | Diez, Tresha A.                            | ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-094-04              | Labadlabad, M. Luisa R.                    | ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-094-04              | Lansangan, Mary Rose                       | ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-094-04              | Maniego, Dianne R.                         | ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-094-04              | Tolentino, Maysee F.                       | ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-050-04              | Wang, Hai Ming                             | Camacho, Felipe & Benvenida dba Sun Mei Corp.  | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-108-07              | Quijano, William O.                        | Cudiatmat, Moises P.   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-039-03              | Dedel, Daniel M.                           | Deng Shi Corporation   | May 14, 2008                 | 9:00 a.m.                |
| 05-132-12              | Jiang, Jizi                                | Express Manufacturing, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-132-12              | Jin, Chunji                                | Express Manufacturing, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-132-12<br>05-132-12 | Jin, Xianghua<br>Quan, Jinhua              | Express Manufacturing, Inc. Express Manufacturing, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m. |
| 05-132-12              | Tao, Yaping                                | Express Manufacturing, Inc.  Express Manufacturing, Inc.                                       | May 14, 2008<br>May 14, 2008 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-132-12              | Xiao, Jingxin                              | Express Manufacturing, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-132-12              | Zhu, Lihua                                 | Express Manufacturing, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-005-01              | Zhong, Chen Chu                            | Golden Dragon  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-127-11              | Perez, Elizabeth DLC                       | Ibarra, Divina S.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-127-11              | San Diego, Romeo L.                        | Ibarra, Divina S.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-127-11              | Valdez, Mary D.B.D.                        | Ibarra, Divina S.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-110-08              | Furuya, Mayuko                             | Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-110-08              | Kadokura, Nami                             | Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-110-08              | Kim, Young Sook                            | Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-110-08              | Pineda, Teresa T.                          | Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.               |
| 05-110-08<br>05-078-04 | Tomishima, Kyoko                           | Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 10:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m. |
| 05-076-04              | Bhatta, Bhoj Raj<br>Liu, Yaping            | JM & Associates  Kan Pacific (Saipan), Ltd.  | May 14, 2008<br>May 14, 2008 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-017-01              | Feliciano, Maria F.S.                      | L and W Amusement Corp.  | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-116-09              | Millondaga, Leland T.                      | L and W Amusement Corp.  | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-066-04              | Gambala, Margarita G.                      | Maratita, Janet U.   | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-087-04              | Benig, Vivencio                            | Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken   | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-087-04              | Fernandez, Isabelita M.                    | Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken   | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-087-04              | Martinez, Vhilma S.                        | Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken   | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-087-04              | Sathappan, Karuppiah P.                    | Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken   | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-087-04              | Tolarba, Delia B.                          | Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken   | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-135-12              | Ma, Yanqin                                 | Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan  | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-113-08              | Dela Cruz, Delainy                         | Mega Power Corp. dba Max Const. and Atoll Diving and Tour Service                              | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-113-08<br>05-109-08 | Pit, Ereneo R.<br>Liu, Tie                 | Mega Power Corp. dba Max Const. and Atoll Diving and Tour Service  New Continental Corporation | May 14, 2008<br>May 14, 2008 | 11:00 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m. |
| 05-109-08              | Buzon, Clovita S.                          | Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-061-04              | Carranceja, Jose A. III                    | Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-061-04              | Cuevas, Federico S.                        | Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-061-04              | Sato, Masaki                               | Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.  | May 14, 2008                 | 11:00 a.m.               |
| 05-095-04              | Lin, Xiao Feng                             | Rifu Apparel   | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-105-07              | Caguiat, Anicia V.                         | Saipan Koresco Corporation   | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-060-04              | Fabito, Sammy R.                           | Sandy's Inc. dba Sandy's Beefeater   | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-054-05              | Mendoza, M. Ruby S.                        | Santos, Barbara  | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-115-08              | Galindez, Gedeliza B.                      | Skilling, Teresa (deceased)  | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-118-09              | Gallo, Warlita T.                          | Stettenbenz, Lisa B.   | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-103-06              | Torres, Rodora                             | Tambayan Lounge and Restaurant   | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-081-04              | Mo, Gui Ying                               | Winner's Corporation   | May 14, 2008                 | 12:00 pm.                |
| 05-011-01<br>05-090-04 | Zhao, Chengbin<br>Xin, Maigin              | Winner's Corporation Winner's II Corporation   | May 14, 2008<br>May 14, 2008 | 12:00 pm.<br>12:00 pm.   |
| 00-090-04              | AIII, IVIAIYIII                            | vviiniei s ii Guipulatiuli   | Iviay 14, 2006               | 12.00 pm.                |

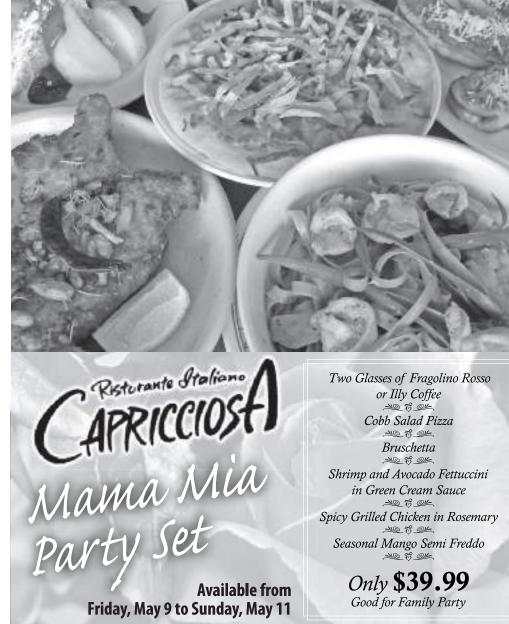
Ornithologist and veterinarian Dr. Thierry Work of the USGS accompanied the birds in order to administer treatment if they should become stressed and require resuscitation. They were met on Sarigan by DFW biologists who released the Nosa and will monitor the population for several days.

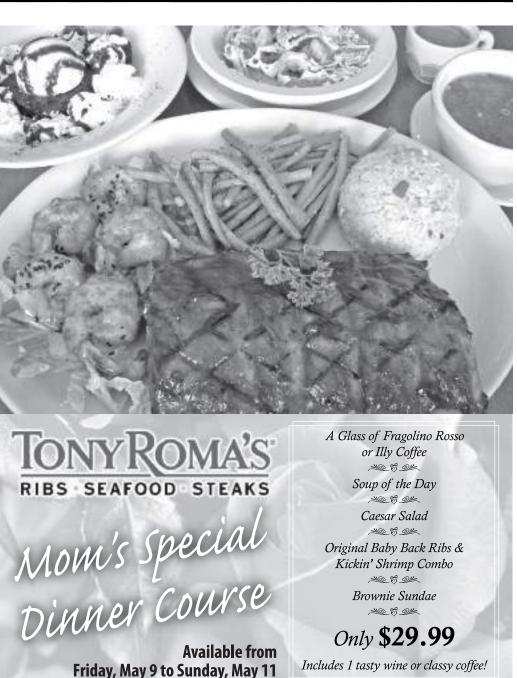
This translocation is part of the larger Marianas Avign

This translocation is part of the larger Marianas Avian Conservation Project, or MAC Project. The project, established four years ago, is a collaboration between the Division of Fish and Wildlife and biologists from the Honolulu Zoo, Memphis Zoo, St. Louis Zoo, Louisville Zoo, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the United States Geological Survey. The MAC Project aims to conserve and promote appreciation for bird species endemic to the Mariana islands.

In addition to the translocation, the MAC project for the third year collected bird species for use in their avian exhibits. This year Golden white-eyes, and White throated ground doves, Paluman apaka or fachi (Gallicolumba xanthonura) were collected. In the past three year the MAC Project has taken into captivity at the zoos Marianas fruit doves, Totot (Ptilinopus roseicapilla), Saipan bridled white-eyes, Golden white-eyes Canario, and White throated ground doves.

The MAC Project was initiated by the Division in 2003 after brown tree snake sightings in Kagman and Fina Sisu. There have been 77 credible sight-







**\$4.50**/Pc

\$6.10/Pc

**\$6.90**/Pc

**\$7.40**/Pc **\$8.50**/Pc

\$11.90/Pc

\$14.50/Pc

**\$4.30**/Pc **\$5.75**/Pc

**\$6.30**/Pc



Seventy-year-old Frank Q. Aguon lived in Tanapag village where the electric capacitors were used as fence in front of his house. Unaware that the capacitors contained 100 percent PCB oil as well as the dangers posed by the highly toxic chemical, Aguon said he just ignored the sight of some of the capacitors leaking. After learning about the health hazards brought about by exposure to PCB, Aguon went to the newly-opened village clinic for medical screening. The clinic, which was set up by the Department of Public Health, will conduct a health evaluation of all people who have lived in Tanapag as well as conduct a special blood testing to determine the PCB level in their bodies.

### Gov't may join lawsuit

The Attorney General's Office is exploring the possibility of working with the private lawyers in its planned action to seek damages for any property of the Commonwealth that may have been destroyed as a result of the polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in Tanapag village. Attorney General Herb D. Soll said a decision will be made soon in consultation with Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio whether or not the planned lawsuit will be handled by private lawyers or not.

### CDA rules out add'l loans for clients with delinquent credits

Instead of releasing additional funds for distressed businesses, the Commonwealth Development Authority has taken a new tact aimed at helping clients cut down on expenses to make it through the hard economic times. Business experts from the development authority have been mobilized to call borrowers who have delinquent accounts for a series of consultation meetings, which CDA holds to identify problems that affect the ability of its clients to pay their dues on time.

### MAY 9, 2001

# **Revenues at five-year low**

The CNMI government has reported a five-year low in the amount of revenues generated from taxes during the financial year 2000, as expenditures went up from the previous year. Government earnings in the last fiscal year was the lowest since 1996, according to a report obtained from the CNMI Department of Commerce.

### Gov't workers paying higher premium rates

The NMI Retirement Fund recently introduced a comprehensive insurance coverage and higher premium rates after signing an agreement with an independent insurance firm last month. Group Health and Life Insurance Manager Dolores Moore yesterday disclosed that Individual Assurance Company representatives are on island to conduct routine orientation.

### **DPS** ioins international fraud busters network

CNMI's inclusion into the US dial-up network has increased its vulnerability to consumer fraud, a criminal intelligence official said yesterday. Amid growing worries of an ill-secured consumer market, authorities are broadening protection measures in defense of local consumers who may be prone to submit to the screaming charms of Internet-based promotions without assurance of its legitimacy.

# **MAY 9, 2002**

VISA

# **NMI** wooing **PAL** for direct Manila flights

A Northern Marianas delegation will leave today for the Philippines to negotiate the resumption of direct Manila-Saipan flights with top executives of the country's flag carrier. Commonwealth Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos H. Salas will be leaving with Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente, Marianas Visitors Authority acting Managing Director Vicky Benavente, and CPA Board Member Roman Tudela.

### **Senate rallies behind Tenorio** in influencing minimum wage bill

Responding to Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio's call for support in signifying the CNMI's willingness to adopt the American Samoa tiered wage system, Senate President Paul A. Manglona said he immediately faxed such a support letter on behalf of the Senate. He added, though, that the upper chamber would still come up with a resolution, expressing the sense of support for the adoption of the tiered minimum wage system in the Commonwealth.





# NMC's pass rate for NCLEX beats int'l average

cent, the Northern Marianas College Nursing Program surpasses the international average for all two- and four-year universities with regard to the percentage of students who pass the extremely challenging National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses exam.

The NCLEX, which tests nursing knowledge, skills, and

With a passage rate of 61 per- abilities, is used by nursing boards to award nurse licenses. Since the beginning of 2007, 61 percent of the NMC Nursing Program graduates have passed the test. The average passage rate for all 2- and 4-year international schools during the same period is only 42 percent.

"That NMC's nursing graduates' passage rate exceeds the international average is further

# Winning essay to be read on Philippine Independence Day

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com

This year's winning "Ties That Bind" essay will be read by its author at this year's 110<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence Day flag raising celebration that is scheduled in June.

The contest, called "Ties That Bind: Exploring the Historic Connections of the United States, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Republic of the Philippines" aims to pique the interest of students to learn more and write in their own words the relevance of the historical ties among the three countries.

Philippine Consul General Wilfredo DL. Maximo said he hopes that the contest will be the high point of this year's celebration.

Through this contest, "we hope it will rekindle interest among the youth about the historic connections between the Northern Marianas, the Philippines and the U.S."

This year's essay contest is open to all high school students in the CNMI from grades 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>.

San Vicente Elementary School teacher Jaime Vergara said that students from schools

who are not participating in the

event are still welcome to join.

The essay must be between 500 and 1,500 words and in English. They must be submitted to the NMI Council for the Humanities no later than May 30. Each submitted essay will be numbered, therefore hiding the identities of the students who wrote them.

"That way, nobody, not even the judges, will be able to tell who wrote the essays," Humanities Council board member Carmen Gaskins said.

The awards for the contest is a round-trip ticket for two to Manila, the Philippines and a tour of places of interest such as the Malacañang Palace for first place; \$300 for second place and \$200 for third place.

The contest promises to provide an excellent opportunity to explore and reaffirm the depths of the historic ties that have long existed between the CNMI, the U.S., and the Philippines.

Gaskins said the committee hopes to encourage more activities in the succeeding years that would allow the youth to connect with their historical and ancestral ties.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

evidence of the program's and the institution's progressive curriculum and high-caliber faculty," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

The high passage rate is especially notable since all of NMC nursing graduates can be considered English as a Second Language students. Students whose first language is English historically have had a first time passage rate that ranged between 67.7 percent and 95 percent. Students for whom English was a second language have had a passage rate between 33.3 percent and 47 percent. The passage rate for internationally based 2- and 4-year nursing programs in 2007, however, was 42 percent.

A 2001 study by J. G. John-

ston concluded that language skills are a key factor in passing the NCLEX-RN exam. Numerous other studies concluded that English language skills are a key factor in passing the NCLEX-RN exam.

ESL students are those whose primary language at home is not Standard English, and therefore, may not be fluent in the Standard English in which the NCLEX exam is written. NMC's English placement standards and rigorous language arts curriculum can be-to a large extent-credited for NMC nursing graduates' above-average success rate when compared to international schools with ESL students.

Presently there are 41 NMC

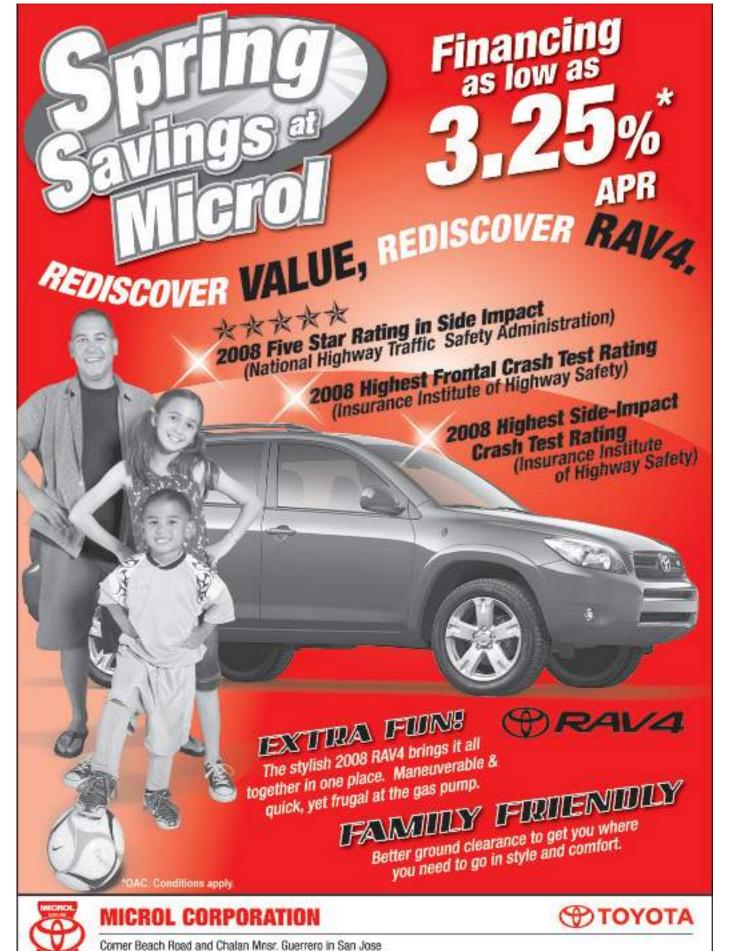
Commonwealth Health Center, other private clinics within the the CNMI's only hospital. At CNMI. (NMC)

graduate nurses working at the least five others are working in

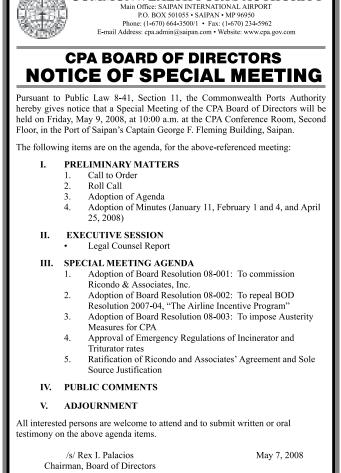
# **CRIME OF THE WEEK** Hit-and-run accident

Crime Stoppers is asking the community for information on any person(s) responsible for the traffic fatality that occurred on Sunday, May 4, 2008, at 3:16am, along Isa Drive in Sadog Tasi. Preliminary investigation revealed that the victim was walking east uphill using the eastbound shoulder when a speeding vehicle ran off the highway and struck the victim. The vehicle then fled the scene and headed in west. It was described as a beige or dark brown sport utility vehicle (SUV). This case is pending further investigation.

Anyone having information about this crime, please call the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. Crime Stoppers pays cash rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest. Caller ID is not used. All calls remain anonymous. It pays to make the call. (Crime Stoppers)



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10 FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Opinion**



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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

# **EDITORIAL**

# After the cyclone

he military rulers of Myanmar are brutal, repressive, incompetent, superstitious—in sum, genuinely loathsome. But now is not the moment to say so, as the White House has made a habit of doing lately. With the death toll from the worst Southeast Asian cyclone since 1991 mounting to more than 22,000, and with at least 41,000 more people missing, this is the time to offer help—and to pray for the sake of the afflicted that it will be accepted.

It has been clear for more than a decade—and especially since last year's suppression of the would-be Saffron Revolution—that Myanmar's odious junta cannot be shamed into reform. It is too isolated and xenophobic to worry about its image, too paranoid to learn from outsiders and too blood-drenched to believe it can survive any loosening of control over its hapless people. The contradictory combination of U.S. sanctions and an engagement strategy adopted by its neighbors has failed to produce any improvement. Attempts to use the catastrophe of Tropical Cyclone Nargis as leverage to pry open the country will almost surely fail as well

The White House has sent mixed messages to Myanmar since the cyclone struck, and that could have dangerous consequences for a country whose poverty, bad governance and lack of infrastructure make its population particularly susceptible to disaster. On Monday, even as the U.S. Embassy in Yangon offered \$250,000 in emergency aid, first lady Laura Bush excoriated the "inept" junta for failing to warn its people of the approaching storm. She has been a courageous critic of the regime, but the timing of her demarche was terrible.

Then on Tuesday, White House spokeswoman Dana Perino announced another \$3 million in aid and pressed for full access for relief workers, who are still waiting for visas. But on the same day, President Bush signed legislation awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi—a stick in the eye to the junta.

The United States should focus on getting food, water and medicine to the suffering population and save the scolding for later. And it should work behind the scenes to convince the junta's two key enablers, India and China, both of which have major energy interests there, that a bettergoverned Myanmar is in their national and regional best interests.

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# Thoughts over Asian coffee

he presentation on CNMI economics I had planned for this month is on hold. I'm more in the mood for action than talk, so I have fast-tracked a small manufacturing idea that's been nibbling at my mind for a couple of years. Consequently, I ditched the zoris for spit-shined wingtips, as I've found myself staying in industrial Asia and meeting with factories. If all goes well, I hope I can create at least a couple of good jobs on Saipan out of this.

But, right now, that's all a big and foggy "maybe."

The reason it's taking me so long to get my arms around this is that it's my first hands-on exposure to manufacturing. My entire career has thus far been in the service sector, generally the finance and economics realms of health care, tourism, wind energy, and aviation. Heck, even writing is a service industry. Come to think of it, my military time was service as well.

Saipan offers some advantages as a gateway between Asia's factories and America's consumer carts. We've got a very talented and affordable English-speaking labor pool, thanks largely to (but, of course, not exclusively to) the Filipino community. Telephone rates to the states are reasonable, thanks to the accomplishments of Froilan Tenorio's administration. And, overall, Saipan is a pleasant place to work, do business, and live.

But these pluses are staring at a growing wall of things to worry about, as you know. Electricity rates and federalization are the two top worries on my mind. Meanwhile, air fares to the outside world seem insanely high, and this alone can swing a business idea into the un-feasible category.

Whether the CNMI wants real jobs, or just permanent government handouts, is not merely a matter of economics, it's a matter of ethics. The private sector is genuinely hated in many CNMI quarters, but maybe there remains a small core of appreciation for it. Or, maybe there doesn't. It's hard to tell.

Anyway, if you've been saturating your soul in the CNMI's woes lately, it really is refreshing to take a gander at functional economies with work ethics and risk-taking such as Taiwan or Hong Kong. There's an energy, a buzz, and an optimism that keeps the mind

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Ed's column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at SaipanBlog.com and TropicalEd.com.

at at

sharp and the blood pumping.

For example, this morning I

For example, this morning I had coffee with a random stranger at a proximate restaurant table, who turned out to be an MIT-educated scientist turned businessman. He's savvy in the ways of Asian factories, and gave me a few pointers. When you have an economy that attracts people of that caliber, it gets a virtuous economic ball rolling.

Yes, brains attract brains. And production attracts production: In fact, that's what capital is by its very definition, it's the only economic factor of production that produces itself. That's why smart, rich countries get richer, and backwards, nasty ones don't.

The advanced world is moving ahead so rapidly that it's mind-

And it's not just the high-tech elite who are part of the action. A Hong Kong hawker made a good sales pitch to me, so I found myself getting measured for clothes by a tailor in a small custom shop. My interest in gentlemanly haberdashery is exactly nil, but I admired the entrepreneurial gumption of these guys.

Yes, there's a lot to be done. A lot of work, and lot of thinking, and a lot of planning, and even a lot of risk taking. I'm enjoying it. These days, Saipan has so many talkers and bureaucrats, and so few doers, that's it's fun to be among some doers, even if I can't even speak the language and need help ordering even a simple cup of coffee. Now that I'm on my second cup, such are my thoughts. So, I'll stir this around: What remains of the private sector can try to help Saipan, but will Saipan even try to help itself?

The Saipan Tribune welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Seduction by a stethoscope

t was the first week of medical school and Littman, the world-famous medical equipment maker, was on campus giving brand new stethoscopes to every entering student. The free "little grey Littman" was unadorned—the disc to place on the chest, the tube to carry the sound, the hollow ear buds. Littman also brought the sparkling models with them, all making the little grey Littman look okay, but not very sexy, like a homely dress in a room full of evening gowns. The sultry knockout of all stethoscopes was the Littman 501. She could be seen draped around the necks of all great cardiologists—in their clinics, hospitals, and family photos.

Ahh, the Littman 501. Her sound capturing device was like a warm hand that would lie gently on any chest. Her double tube body with dedicated conveyance to separate ear canals ignored all voices but the one she was intent upon. Her soft ergonomic buds were like lips that would whisper sweet lub-dubs into your ears. She was dressed in elegant black with silver accessories. Walk with her through the wards, and hearts throb, beats skip, murmurs rise for you and your 501. Your unbuttoned white coat flutters, leaving those with lesser stethoscopes gazing admiringly, with a twinge of envy, then hurrying to keep pace. Stay with her long enough and she would curl up into a perfect halo, illuminating your way.

I held the little grey Littman in my hand, and saw the 501 gaze

seductively at me from across the room, promising love, happiness and the ability to hear a paradoxically-split S2.

"What do you think?" I asked the cardiology attending who was there to browse. His Kentucky drawl thickened the air before his lips, the words slowly making their way through it. His statement stayed with me throughout my career. "It ain't what's in your ears that counts; it's what's between them."

I love the high-tech tools of my trade—my slit lamp, the ocular coherence tomographer, my phaco machine, the laser—but the most valuable tool I possess is me: my brain, followed closely by my eyes and my hands, all held together by my soul which helps me work compassionately.

The doctor-as-tool may seem obvious, but it isn't. We often give better care to our equipment than to our selves, thus growing dull, sometimes even broken, from lack of maintenance. People come to see us, because of who we are. They're happy when we have the best equipment, but they know that without the talent to use the technology, and the soul to stay off grumpiness, the doctor isn't much use.

Last week the new patient looked stunned when I said that the treatment for her lingering red eye would be, well, brain surgery—that without it, she would die. She had walked in, expecting more

# **BETTER LIVING**

By DAVID KHORRAM, M.D. Special to the Saipan Tribune

David Khorram, MD is a board certified ophthalmologist and director of Marianas Eye Institute and the author of the book, World Peace, a Blind Wife, and Gecko Tails. Com-

ments and questions are welcome. Call 235-9090 or email him through www.MarianasEye.com, or leave comments at www.MarianasEye.blogspot.com. Copyright © 2008 David Khorram

drops. But my eyes had seen the tortuosity of her conjunctival blood vessels. My brain had noticed them and drawn a conclusion. My hands opened the drawer, dusted off the stethoscope, and placed it, oddly enough, on her skull. I heard the faint swoosh swoosh swoosh—a leak from a vessel in her brain, squirting blood with every heartbeat. The leak was raising the pressure inside the cavernous sinus, slowing drainage of blood from her left eye. This was causing her chronic "conjunctivitis" which no drops seemed to cure. I put my little grey Littman back into the drawer, and smiled, knowing that technology can be seductive, but it's not what matters most.

# The governor says no, others say yes

n the next week or so, the White House will begin looking into areas that have been proposed by private environmental groups as potential Marine Monuments. Our Mariana Trench Marine Monument is on the list for consideration.

We have presented this idea to hundreds of people in our community. We went on the radio and the local news station to explain the proposed project and it has had several write-ups in both local newspapers. We have made every attempt to speak with as many people as possible and this dialogue is ongoing.

The feedback we have gotten at our many public meetings has been positive. How strong has the support been? Well, both Heinz Hofschneider and Juan Babauta like the idea and want to see more information. When was the last time they agreed on something? The same goes for Tina Sablan, Cinta Kaipat, and Greg Cruz. They have all seen the proposal and like it.

Senator Paul Manglona was on TV last week and said, "The Senate is very much in support of any national monument or national park where we protect the environment. I want to put that on the record." Six other senators read statements into the official Senate Record last Wednesday basically saying that they liked the idea and that they needed more information. The recent joint resolution was passed to make it clear that they needed to know more before they

could make any decision.

The Chamber of Commerce and HANMI are both in support. Immigrant rights activist Wendy Doromal and Daily Kos blogger Dennis Greenia are also in support. They don't tend to agree on a lot of things, but they agree with this.

Many community members have written letters to the editor to raise concerns or to show support. Last week 19 letters to the editor and editorials spoke in support of the Monument. Only three were against.

A member of the WESPAC advisory panel, John Gourley, has been on a campaign of personal misinformation, the likes of which we have not seen since he was hired to take Sugar Dock away from the people living in Chalan Kanoa. Remember Save Sugar Dock?

Gourley and other WESPAC representatives in the administration have convinced the governor that this proposal does not even deserve to be considered.

That is unfortunate, because most people in the community think it is not only a great proposal, but a "no-brainer."

So next week when the White House convenes to discuss which proposals they will consider investigating, they will weigh the governor's non-support, which is based on the misinformation he has received from WESPAC, against the support of Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio and the many other people in our com-

# By ANGELO VILLAGOMEZ

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Angelo Villagomez is the Saipan coordinator for the Ocean Legacy Project of the Pew Environment Group.



munity who have publicly stated that they like the idea.

The White House might decide that this proposal is too controversial and move on to another monument proposal, such as the one in American Samoa being touted by their governor. If that is the case, the opportunity to protect the waters surrounding our uninhabited far northern islands using federal funds, not to mention the accompanying local jobs, international exposure, visitor's center, and increased research and education, will cease to exist.

However, it is my hope that the White House will see the merits of creating the world's second largest protected area around the deepest part of the ocean. In that case, a dialogue between the local government and the federal government will ensue. There will be public hearings and public comment. Then if this is ultimately something that the people of the CNMI want, we can ask the President to create our monument.

# Letters to the Editor

# Mr. Muna and alternative energy

Local papers reported yesterday a statement attributed to newly appointed CUC executive director Antonio Muna. That statement was: "CUC will soon bring alternative energy online for its residential and commercial customers."

Under a recently amended "green" law passed by the CNMI legislature in 2006, CUC is mandated to employ 10 percent "alternative" energy by the end of this year—and to double it every two years to a maximum of 80 percent. Of course, anyone who has done the research, as I have, knows or will quickly learn, that this scenario is not possible to achieve—in the time allot-

ted or, indeed, ever. Experts in the field all agree that no "backbone" power requirement can ever be replaced by "alternative" energies subject to the whims of nature at any level above about 20 percent with today's technological know-how, or for many years to come. The law will, quite simply, self-destruct.

But the statement attributed to Mr. Muna bears scrutiny and begs several questions that require answers that the public, now titillated by a new "promise," has a right to hear. Sorry Mr. Muna, but once again, and with respect, "you asked for it." Here are my three "what" questions:

1) Since it seems that no-one has seen or been made aware of any planning or construction of "alternative" energy sources in the CNMI, please tell us exactly what "alternative" energy CUC now plans to bring online.

2) A subsequent question is wrought from no. 1 in that now it becomes important to know what kind of "alternative" energy CUC will bring online.

3) Since the term used was "soon", and that implies a very broad range depending on your background, please define, by timeline, what constitutes "soon." For instance, a city dweller from New York may interpret that as within the hour, whereas a country boy like me might think more in terms of a year; to some it may have no meaning at all.

You stated that CUC plans to

bring "alternative" energy to about 10,000, or two-thirds, of your customers. My analysis of available references indicates that such a level is not possible to attain with sources the CNMI has indicated it considers as "alternative"—at least no one in this world has yet to achieve a level greater than 19 percent and most are stuck at 5 percent or less. Even at 19 percent "alternative" sources, not a single fossil fueled generator was turned off and the combined cost of delivered power was actually higher than the cost of fossil fuel power alone (Europe, England, 2006).

By the way, for those of you who are in a state of shock over announced new power rates, and there are many, the new rate IS an accurate reflection of the cost of power production just as I had predicted only one day before

it was announced. It will continue to rise as long as world oil price is held to the benchmark dollar and the dollar continues to fall while futures investors seek a safer haven; that of commodities such as oil and grain instead of currency.

And here's one more little "by-the-way" for you: most sources identified by the CNMI as alternative "green" energy sources are not so "green" after all. Several research articles I pointed to in previous letters all show that wind, solar, biomass and even ocean wave projects have negative effects on the environment. Proposed "alternative" energy projects must address these concerns.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr., San Jose, Tinian

# Upcoming reports on marine park proposal

Amid the many letters of support for the concept of a national-park-of-the-sea in the northernmost Mariana Islands are a number of lengthy and repetitive letters in opposition—all from one individual. These letters offer a blizzard of inaccurate assertions and unsupported claims—perhaps in the hope this will make up for the apparent lack of public opposition to the proposed marine park.

We at the Pew Environment Group support the idea of a park in the Northern Marina Islands because we believe it will offer longterm benefits for the environment and for fisheries, and it will also generate economic activity and jobs locally through new federal funding for management, research and monitoring. Moreover, the international recognition generated from designation of a world-class marine park will enhance the reputation of the Commonwealth and bring favorable attention that will help support CNMI's tourism economy.

We understand that additional information will help people better understand the implications of the marine park-in-the-sea proposal. To facilitate that, the Pew Environment Group recently commissioned two

studies that will provide detailed information that will help the CNMI public to better assess for themselves the merits of the proposed park. One report will summarize key information on some of the resources and values of the waters around Uracus, Maug and Asuncion islands. The second study is an analysis of the estimated economic benefits—and costs—that will result from the des-

ignation of a marine park. We will distribute these reports when they are available and hope they will help set the record straight and ensure that the information being disseminated is both accurate and balanced.

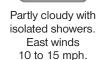
### Jay Nelson

Director – Global Ocean Legacy The Pew Environment Group Juneau, Alaska **12** FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam,

# The Weather

### 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



**▲86° ▼76°** 



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

**▲85° ▼76°** 



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▼76°** 

**▲85°** 

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲85° ▼75°** 



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

# **▲86° ▼75°**

170

### **Micronesia**

| Guam and Ro | ota Mostly Sunny ▲86 ▼76 |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| Palau       | Thunderstorms ▲85 ▼77    |
| Yap         | Thunderstorms ▲86 ▼77    |
| Chuuk       | Mostly Cloudy ▲87 ▼77    |
| Pohnpei     | Thundershowers ▲ 86 ▼79  |
| Kosrae      | Thunderstorms ▲84 ▼72    |
| Maiuro      | Thunderstorms ▲86 ▼75    |

### **Around The Globe**

| Auckland      | Showers        | <b>▲</b> 66 | ₹54         |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Beijing       | Showers        | <b>▲</b> 64 | ₹48         |
| Hong Kong     | Thundershowers | 88          | <b>▼</b> 73 |
| Honolulu      | Showers        | <b>▲</b> 80 | <b>▼</b> 73 |
| London        | Showers        | <b>▲</b> 68 | ₹50         |
| Los Angeles   | Cloudy         | <b>▲</b> 68 | <b>▼</b> 56 |
| Manila        | Thundershowers | <b>№</b> 90 | ₹79         |
| Melbourne     | Cloudy         | <b>▲</b> 68 | ▼50         |
| Miami         | Mostly Sunny   | <b>▲</b> 87 | ▼74         |
| New York      | Rain           | <b>▲</b> 61 | ₹48         |
| Osaka         | Mostly Cloudy  | <b>▲</b> 67 | ▼54         |
| Paris         | Mostly Cloudy  | <b>▲</b> 74 | <b>▼</b> 59 |
| Pusan         | Mostly Cloudy  | <b>▲</b> 66 | ₹53         |
| Rome          | Partly Sunny   | <b>▲</b> 74 | <b>▼</b> 54 |
| Salem         | Partly Sunny   | <b>▲</b> 64 | ▼42         |
| San Francisco | Partly Sunny   | <b>▲</b> 62 | ₹49         |
| Seoul         | Mostly Cloudy  | <b>▲</b> 68 | ₹48         |
| Tokyo         | Showers        | <b>▲</b> 68 | ▼57         |
|               |                |             |             |

#### **Tides** Saipan Harbor 4:38AM Today Low Tide: 1.4 Feet 9:10AM Today High Tide: 2.0 Feet 4:54PM Today Low Tide: 0.6 Feet

Rain

**▲**73 ▼51

# SAIPAN

Yesterday's Satellite Image

#### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2008

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical storm 03W (Rammasun) centered near 8N131E is producing numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms within about 700 miles of the center. See JTWC warnings issued under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW for the latest information. This area of precipitation covers Palau and Yap. A monsoon trough extends from the tropical storm to 4N142E to EQ148E is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between the equator and 4N from 140E to 145E. A trough south of Pohnpei from 6N157E to 1N159E is producing scattered showers within 100 miles of the trough. A very weak trough southeast of Kosrae coupled with upper-level divergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 100 miles of a line from 7N166E to 3N167E. Trade-wind convergence coupled with upper-level divergence near 5N180 is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 80 miles of a line from 5N175E to 5N180. A low is centered near 25N144E. A stationary front associated with this system is aiding the formation of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of a line from 21N130E to 22N142E to 25N151E.

| Su       | nrise/Suns | et     | Moonrise/Moonset |         |         |  |  |
|----------|------------|--------|------------------|---------|---------|--|--|
| Today    | 5:50AM     | 6:37PM | Today            | 9:11AM  | 10:45PM |  |  |
| Saturday | 5:50AM     | 6:37PM | Saturday         | 10:16AM | 11:38PM |  |  |
| Sunday   | 5:50AM     | 6:37PM | Sunday           | 11:17AM |         |  |  |
| Monday   | 5:49AM     | 6:38PM | Monday           | 12:14PM | 12:25AM |  |  |
| Tuesday  | 5:49AM     | 6:38PM | Tuesday          | 1:07PM  | 1:07AM  |  |  |

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Washington, DC

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- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
- A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**NMI CRIME** 

**STOPPERS** 

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

■ TRÁVELOGUE

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- tos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

### For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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| F       | LIGHT   | SCHI    | EDULE          | AS OF   | APRIL   | . 8, 20  | 08          |
|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|----------|-------------|
| D       | EPAR    | RTURI   | ES             |         | ARF     | RIVAL    | s           |
|         | n-Rota  |         |                | Rota-S  | Saipan  |          |             |
| -       | 8:30am  | 9:05am  | 3,4,7          |         | 11:10am | 11:45am  | 1,2,6       |
| Saipa   | n-Guan  | n       |                | Guam    | -Saipa  | n        |             |
| CO9317  | 4:00am  | 4:50am  | Daily          | CO 9316 | 2:30am  | 3:20am   | Daily       |
| CO9597  | 8:30am  | 9:20am  | 1,2,5,6        | CO9596  | 7:00am  | 7:50am   | Daily       |
| CO9313  | 8:30am  | 10:00am | 3,4,7 via Rota | CO9598  | 10:15am | 11:45am  | 1,2,6 via R |
| CO9601  | 12:30pm | 1:20pm  | Daily          | CO9600  | 10:45am | 11:35am  | 3,4,5,7     |
| CO9603  | 3:30pm  | 4:20pm  | Daily          | CO9602  | 2:00pm  | 2:50pm   | Daily       |
| CO9605  | 6:30pm  | 7:20pm  | Daily          | CO9604  | 5:00pm  | 5:50pm   | Daily       |
| CO9599  | -       | 10:20pm | -              | CO9606  |         | 8:50pm   | Daily       |
| Saipa   | n-Narit | а       |                | Narita  | -Saipa  | n        |             |
| NW 078  | 8:40am  | 2:00pm  | Daily via      | NW 076  | 10:15am | 2:50pm   | Daily       |
|         |         |         | Nagoya         | NW 077  | 6:25pm  | 1:25am+1 | Daily via   |
| NW 075  | 4:45pm  | 7:25pm  | Daily          |         |         |          | Nagoya      |
| Saipa   | n-Osak  | а       |                | Osaka   | -Saipa  | n        |             |
| NW 083  | 4:20pm  | 7:10pm  | Daily          | NW 084  | 10:30am | 3:05pm   | Daily       |
| Saipa   | n-Nago  | ya      |                | Nagoy   | a-Saip  | an       |             |
| NW 078  | 8:40am  | 11:25am | Daily          | NW 077  | 9:00pm  | 1:25am+1 | Daily       |
| Saipa   | n-Mani  | la      |                | Manila  | a-Saipa | ın       |             |
| CO 895  | 4:45pm  | 6:35pm  | 6              | CO 890  | 9:15am  | 2:55pm   | 6           |
| CO 895  | 6:45pm  | 8:35pm  | 3              | CO 890  | 11:45am | 5:35pm   | 3           |
| Saipa   | n-Seou  | ı       |                | Seoul   | -Saipar | 1        |             |
| OZ 604  | 2:20am  | 6:00am  | 1              | OZ 605  | 9:00am  | 2:30pm   | 2,4,6,7     |
| OZ 604  | 2:50am  | 6:30am  | 2,3,4,5,6,7    | OZ 603  | 7:40pm  | 1:10am+1 | 7           |
| OZ 606  | 3:30pm  | 7:00pm  | 2,4,6,7        | OZ 603  | 8:10pm  | 1:40am+1 | 1,2,3,4,5   |
| Saipa   | n-Busa  | n       |                | Busan   | -Saipa  | n        |             |
| OZ 608  | 3:50am  | 7:20am  | 1,4,5,7        | OZ 607  | 9:30pm  | 2:50am+1 | 3,4,6,7     |
| Guam    | -Manila | 1       |                | Manila  | a-Guan  | 1        |             |
| CO 891  | 6:00am  | 10:30am | 3 via Yap      | CO 894  |         | 4:55pm   | 2,7         |
|         |         |         | and Koror      | CO 894  | 7:45pm  | 1:20am+1 | 6           |
| CO 893  |         | 8:05am  | 6              | CO 892  | 9:45pm  | 6:30am+1 |             |
| CO 893  |         | 10:00am | ,              |         |         |          | and Yap     |
| CO 893  |         | -       | 5 via Koror    | CO 892  |         | 5:30am+1 |             |
| CO 933  | 7:00pm  | 8:40pm  | •              | CO 934  |         | 4:30am+1 | -           |
| PR 111  | 6:00am  | 7:45am  | 1,2,4,6,7      | PR 110  | 10:15pm | 4:00am+1 | 1,3,5,6,7   |
| _       | n-Guan  | zhou    |                |         | hou-Sa  | =        |             |
| CZ 3008 | 5:00am  | 8:00am  | 2,6            | CZ 3007 | 8:00pm  | 4:00am+1 | 1,5         |
|         | -Hongk  | _       |                | _       | cong-G  |          |             |
| CO 909  | 6:40pm  | 9:25pm  | 1,5            | CO 910  | 10:35pm | 5:15am+1 | 1,5         |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

**Rota-Guam** 

Airline

CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7

ETD

**ETA** Frequency

**Guam-Rota** 

CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1.2.6

ETD

### FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

**ETA** Frequency

| Guam-Ro  | ota     |         |       | FRE 113     | 11:40am   | 11:50am  | Daily |
|----------|---------|---------|-------|-------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| FRE 100  | 7:00am  | 7:30am  | Daily | FRE 115     | 1:00pm    | 1:10pm   | Daily |
| Rota-Sai | pan     |         |       | FRE 117     | 2:30pm    | 2:40pm   | Daily |
| FRE 100  | 7:50am  | 8:20am  | Daily | FRE 119     | 4:00pm    | 4:10pm   | Daily |
| Saipan-R | lota    |         |       | FRE 121     | 4:40pm    | 4:50pm   | Daily |
| FRE 200  | 9:00am  | 9:30am  | Daily | FRE 123 *   | 5:40pm    | 5:50pm   | Daily |
| Rota-Gua | am      |         |       | FRE 125 *   | 6:00pm    | 6:10pm   | Daily |
| FRE 200  | 9:50am  | 10:15am | Daily | Tinian-Sa   | inan w/   | oonnooti | na.   |
| Guam-Ro  | ota     |         |       | flights to  |           |          | ng    |
| FRE 300  | 4:00pm  | 4:30pm  | Daily | iligiits to | nota or t | auam     |       |
| Rota-Sai | pan     |         |       | FRE 102     | 7:05am    | 7:15am   | Daily |
| FRE 300  | 4:50pm  | 5:25pm  | Daily | FRE 104     | 7:50am    | 8:00am   | Daily |
| Saipan-R | lota    |         |       | FRE 106**   | 8:20am    | 8:30am   | Daily |
| FRE 400  | 6:00pm  | 6:30pm  | Daily | FRE 108**   | 9:00am    | 9:10am   | Daily |
| Rota-Gu  | am      |         |       | FRE 110     | 10:00am   | 10:10am  | Daily |
| FRE 400  | 6:45pm  | 7:15pm  | Daily | FRE 112     | 11:05am   | 11:15am  | Daily |
| Saipan-T | inian   |         |       | FRE 114     | 12:00pm   | 12:10pm  | Daily |
| FRE 101  | 6:45am  | 6:55am  | Daily | FRE 116     | 1:30pm    | 1:40pm   | Daily |
| FRE 103  | 7:30am  | 7:40am  | Daily | FRE 118     | 2:50pm    | 3:00pm   | Daily |
| FRE 105  | 8:00am  | 8:10am  | Daily | FRE 120**   | 4:20pm    | 4:30pm   | Daily |
| FRE 107  | 8:40am  | 8:50am  | Daily | FRE 122**   | 5:00pm    | 5:10pm   | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am  | 9:20am  | Daily | FRE 124     | 6:05pm    | 6:15pm   | Daily |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily | FRE 126     | 6:20pm    | 6:30pm   | Daily |
|          |         |         |       |             |           |          |       |

# Letter to the Editor

# More misconceptions about the Pew monument

Please allow me the opportunity to clarify three misconceptions that Ms. Ruth Tighe wrote about in "On My Mind" dated May 2, 2008 (see also Letter to the Editor, dated May 5, 2008 in the Saipan Tribune). Though we rarely agree on certain issues, I have respect for Ms. Tighe's opinions and read her column regularly. I also realize that she takes pride in forming her opinion based on facts. However, one can only arrive at well founded conclusions when you have the correct information at hand—hence the problem.

Of course, our Pew lobbyist has nothing but praise for Ms. Tighe's understanding of the Pew monument idea. He states: "Ruth Tighe dedicated most of this week's On My Mind to the Monument. I think she's been in communication with Jay, because her editorial has a very good grasp of the situation." (see http://jetapplicant.blogspot.com/; 4 May 2008; blog entry entitled "Weekend Wrapup").

#### **MISCONCEPTION 1:**

"Another misapprehension has to do with control of the waters surrounding the three northernmost islands. It should be remembered, first of all, that at the moment, the CNMI does not control any of the waters surrounding any of its islands." (Tighe)

"The monument declaration would give the CNMI a voice in controlling the waters up to the 200 mile limit in that the CNMI would be, as I understand it, an equal partner in determining what would be allowed to take place within the 200 mile limit." (Tighe)

You are correct that the federal government owns all the waters and submerged lands from the shoreline seaward to 200 miles. However, contrary to your statement, the CNMI currently has a very active role in managing (i.e., controlling) fisheries resources within the CNMI Exclusive Economic Zone. This is accomplished through the public process administered by the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service. If the Pew Monument is designated, primary management responsibility for the EEZ will be transferred to the National Marine Sanctuary Program (NOAA/National Ocean Service) and the control currently being realized in managing our EEZ resources will be taken away—forever.

With respect to the second claim, I must inform you that the co-management system that would be established for the Pew Monument would not provide for "equal partners" in the management of federal waters. This issue was fully explained and appropriately documented in my Letter to the Editor (The NMI's role as a co-manager of

the proposed Pew Monument—how real is it?) dated April 24, 2008 in the Saipan Tribune and Marianas Variety. You may be interested in reading the letter as there is no reason to repeat the lengthy in-depth discussion here

Before you automatically discount my letter, you should be aware that it was sent to Ms. Athline Clark, (State Co-Manager for the Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument) to review for accuracy. (I did not send it.) After reviewing my letter's contents, Ms. Clark responded: "I hate to say this but much of what is stated in the letter is accurate. The State of Hawaii did not 'gain' additional authority over the management of resources in the creation of the Monument. If this is being claimed, this is not the case. Most of what he has written regarding the process and the agreements is in fact how it happened and his analysis is not all wrong." (Note: There was one issue that Ms. Clark and I disagreed on, but the issue has

nothing to with the NMI Monument situation.)

Although Ms. Clark's e-mail was posted on the Pew lobbyist's blogsite (http://jetapplicant.blogspot.com/; April 28, 2008; blog entry titled "Information Direct from Hawaii"), you won't find the above quotation included. Ms. Clarks original e-mail message (dated April 23, 2008) was altered and her statement confirming my analysis of the co-management issue was conveniently deleted. I find this interesting behavior for someone who claims to be interested in getting the truth out to the public about the Pew Monument.

#### **MISCONCEPTION 2:**

"Moreover, with the federal government officially involved, it is a safe assumption that the U.S. Coast Guard would bring in at least one boat—at no cost to the CNMI—to help patrol those waters." (Tighe)

Related to the above statement, our Pew lobbyist claimed "If it is going to be world-class

and if there is going to be real enforcement, rather than token enforcement, it will require a National designation. It will probably cost about \$10 million per year to patrol those waters." (see http://jetapplicant.blogspot.com/; 28 March 2008; blog entry titled "Do you support the park?"

The letter to the editor by Mr. Ken Kramer carries this subject to a new level: "As I understand it, the CNMI will also be provided with the means to patrol its own waters for the very first time. Wow!" (Letter to the Editor; Saipan Tribune and Marianas Variety dated April 17, 2008).

I believe the above unsubstantiated claims are misleading as this type of irresponsible advocacy is often accepted as fact by the general public. Please allow me to bring some facts and dare I say—common sense—to the reality of this issue.

We all know that designation of the Pew Monument would be a federal action by the President via the Antiquities Act of 1906; however only recently was it brought to my attention that the Presidential Proclamation is also an *unfunded mandate*.

Even with an unfunded mandate, the federal government still has the primary responsibility to enforce federal regulations on federal lands and waters. Enforcement funds, if any, for the Pew Monument will go to existing budgets of federal enforcement agencies, such as the U.S. Coast Guard, and perhaps NOAA. The federal government is not going to give the CNMI millions of dollars to enforce federal regulations on a federally designated National Monument—that's a nobrainer

On another note, I sent an inquiry to the U.S. Coast Guard about increased funding levels associated with the additional enforcement responsibilities associated with the creation of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Monument—the largest and most prestigious National Marine Monument in the US. Since the NWHI

Monument was created in June 2006, the U.S. Coast Guard has received no additional funding for enforcement issues (personal communication; CDR Young; e-mail dated April 26, 2008). As such, the U.S. Coast Guard has to balance their mandate for ensuring national security, saving lives and vessel inspection/safety programs against spending millions of dollars sending their vessel and crew to the remote NWHI Monument to catch trespassers and people fishing without a permit. What evidence makes Pew believe the federal government is going to dedicate millions of dollars for enforcement purposes in the proposed Pew Monument when they don't even support the U.S. Coast Guard for the NWHI Monument?

With skyrocketing costs (fuel, personnel, etc.), ever shrinking budgets, and over extended mandates, it just isn't practical for the U.S. Coast Guard to send vessels up to remote island areas to steam around in circles look-

See MORE on Page 14



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# Letters to the Editor

# My reason for *not* supporting the Pew proposal

I have read with distress the letters of support for the Pew monument proposal, and those few letters voicing their concern for this proposal in its current state. Traditionally, our local people are not comfortable articulating their concerns in this arena

and format. I have, however, heard many discussions over gatherings where local people have shared concern for the permanent loss of use over our waters, and the seemingly lack of participation in the process early enough to ensure that our

values, customs, practices and interests are surely protected. It is for this reason that I find myself writing this letter.

I do not profess to speak on behalf of any other citizen. I merely ask for your consideration for my position. I am not against conservation; however, I am against unchecked and rushed preservation. In the biological field, the definition of conservation vs. preservation is that one supports sustainable or wise use, and the other locks away the venerated resource regardless of what the needs for consumption are. There seems such a willingness to sacrifice our people and people as a whole on the altar of environmentalism.

I have listened to two separate presentations from the Pew organization and the same concern continues to haunt me; we are asked to unilaterally support a set proposal from an off-island non-governmental entity to permanently block access to our resources without See MY REASON on Page 16

# MORE

From Page 13

ing for trespassers and illegal fishers—there are more important issues on the table for this agency to address. Additionally, with the ongoing military buildup in the Marianas, we will have so much sophisticated electronic surveillance equipment the military will probably know when a vessel enters the EEZ before the vessel captain knows it—all from a comfortable land-based air-conditioned office. To suggest the U.S. Coast Guard will actually assign or give a vessel to the Pew Monument for enforcement purposes is just not realistic.

What makes this entire unknown future enforcement funding scenario even worse is that a new president will be in office who probably won't give a tinker's damn about supporting or promoting former President Bush's last minute "Ocean President" legacy. As I have mentioned before, I believe the Pew Monument is all about mainland politics, not conservation and that is why I believe Pew is rushing

As an aside, should the CNMI be able to develop

sustainable fisheries within our Northern Islands EEZ, we will have our own fishermen on the lookout for illegal fishing vessels. This additional real time on-site surveillance will cost the CNMI nothing. Our fishermen will be policing our EEZ for us and them.

### **MISCONCEPTION 3:**

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"That a monument designation

would deprive local fishermen of their livelihood is disinformation of the worst sort. So far as I know, no CNMI fisherman now fishes there. It's too far away. Fuel is too costly. Few if any boats are seaworthy enough to make such a trip on a regular basis. Manganese nodules? No one I know of is mining them anywhere in the whole world!" (Tighe)

I believe you have completely missed the point of the arguments being presented against the Pew Monument. Even though there is little fishing currently going on in our extreme northern EEZ, the CNMI does have a new fishing business venture (Crystal Seas) that plan to fish these waters. Additionally, the CNMI government wishes to develop sustainable fisheries in our EEZ—the entire EEZ. Designation of the Pew Monument will completely and permanently prohibit all commercial, recreational and subsistence fishing activities within a third of the CNMI's EEZ (based on NWHI Monument regulations). Therefore, the Pew Monument will stop forever—any future use of that area for fishing purposes.

I agree with your comment about manganese nodules. In an attempt to defend the Pew Monument, Mr. Ken Kramer discussed his opinion on manganese nodules (see Letter to

the Editor: Saipan Tribune and Marianas Variety dated April 28, 2008). I have no idea where the idea of manganese nodules originated, but it is irrelevant. Pew Monument proponents have again missed the point—it's not about manganese nodules, it's the choice of whether the CNMI wants to entertain mineral extraction in over 115,000 square miles of their EEZ. Designation of the Pew Monument will completely and permanently prohibit all oil, gas, and mineral extraction activities within one-third of the CNMI's EEZ. Therefore, the Pew Monument will stop—forever—any future use of the submerged lands for any extractive purpose. It doesn't matter that the CNMI government doesn't own the submerged lands; should oil, gas, or mineral extraction opportunities arise, the Minerals Management Service will

I hope this letter further clarifies why the majority of the people in the CNMI are opposing the Pew Monument.

likely be designated the lead

regulatory authority and per-

haps the CNMI government

could receive royalties. The

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these business activities.

**John Gourley** Navy Hill, Saipan

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| R07-031F    | 2005 | AVEO 4DR.                 | AUTO   | 68515   | YELLOW     | ABY-169   | \$9,599              | \$7,599       |
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# **MY REASON**

From Page 14

any guarantee that our interests will be considered when drafting the final regulations that will govern the monument. I came to this conclusion based on the presentation citing the urgency to voice our support for this proposal while the offer is on the table or lose the opportunity for designation at a later time when it may be more beneficial for the Commonwealth. The sense of urgency stems from the impending departure of President George W. Bush from office. It is the emphasis on this sense of urgency coupled with the lack of any guarantee to deliver on the plethora of proposed benefits to the Commonwealth, which bothers me the most.

During the last presentation I attended at the Kagman Community Center, one community member inquired how long the process took for the NWHI monument, to which Mr. Villagomez responded "seven and a half years." The state of Hawaii had seven and a half years to go through this process, yet they expect us to make a decision without the benefit of having all the information to make the most educated decision. I do not doubt our mental acumen; I just feel that we should be afforded an opportunity to hear what the federal government is willing to assure the Commonwealth be*fore* we render our support. This begs the question, why are we

only hearing from Pew?

we should be pressured to rush to support this designation without any assurances from the only source that is able to negotiate the terms of designation; the federal government and/or the White House. If this concept is such a worthy endeavor, then it should withstand the test of time and be available at a later date when we all will have ample time to look into the matter and weigh all the options against the consequences. However, if this is not the best thing for the CNMI, then what recourse is available for redress? If this is such a great idea, it will remain a great idea even after President Bush leaves office.

For the sake of brevity, only an act of Congress will reverse the designation once the President has declared the monument so. If you think that I am wrong, I gladly accept correction with examples of monuments that were amended to suit the needs of the community.

Now, on the issue of "comanagement," I would like to suggest that we currently employ this arrangement now. We have benefited from a Cooperative Joint Enforcement Agreement with NOAA Fisheries Law Enforcement branch for many years which also provides funding. We are able to monitor and enforce our local regulations along with federal regulations to protect the interest of the Commonwealth. An example of a recent incident where co-man-

agement has proven successful Simply put, I do not feel that is when a foreign fishing vessel was seized for illegally fishing in our waters, and the Commonwealth received approximately \$160,000 for its part in the operation under the Magnuson Stevens Act, and the PIAFA. This was possible only because the CNMI was afforded an opportunity to negotiate terms that provide for our interests over a timetable that was set by us.

> If Pew's proposal is so valuable, why wouldn't the opportunity for designation at a later date be possible? Why is it necessary for the President of the United States to designate the monument in order for us to be able to advertise the beauty and wonders of our resources surrounding the waters of our sanctuary and our unique destination? If stewardship is our ultimate goal, then we should increase the coverage of the monument locally and justify it through science. This way, it is still possible to weigh the restriction against the needs of the community and adjust the designation when and if necessary. We should pressure our elected leaders to consider humanity first, and continue to elect leaders that understand that people matter most and will not bend to the whim of extremist, or answer to the call for self-aggrandizing bravado.

In closing, I feel that we deserve to have all the information provided to us before we are requested to support this proposal

See MY REASON on Page 17



# Letters to the Editor

# Why WESPAC wants a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument

I et's talk fish

Sustainable commercial fishing is without a doubt a great idea in theory; in practice, it does not work very well. The truth is that neither NOAA Fisheries, formerly the National Marine Fisheries Service, nor the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Council has a stellar record of achievement in their performance in terms of managing fish stocks. Indeed, both NOAA Fisheries and WESPAC records are abysmally poor, which is not surprising, since the rules of management continue to follow industry-led, short-term economic benefits over resource oriented conservation efforts. Business interests above all else with a smattering of politics, more than science, is at issue here. There are numerous examples of both of their management failures online that document the worsening conditions. See: http://www.monachus-guardian.org/mguard12/1221covsto1. htm Here is a chronology of failure concerning the lobster fishery in Hawaii: http://www.monachus-guardian.org/library/kahea01a. pdf and The Lost Fish Coalition: http://www.lostfishcoalition.org/

Why would WESPAC want to support the creation of a marine monument? For the simple reason that it is incapable of basing its commercial fisheries management efforts on sound science, because politics and the fishing industry are so heavily involved in the decision making that goes into its management rules and policies. Why is it that there are no conservationists on WESPAC? Why is it that none of the three Pacific Ocean councils has had a conservationist in 27 years?

"Ever since they reopened the swordfish longline fishery in April 2004, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and NOAA Fisheries have been declaring they have figured out how to longline for swordfish without killing critically endangered leatherback and loggerhead sea turtles. Apparently, they were wrong. Let's hope this time they have the wisdom to keep the fishery closed, "said Paul Achitoff managing attorney of Earthjustice in Honolulu who represented sea turtle conservation groups in litigation that initially shut down the longline fleet in 1999 for killing federally-protected sea turtles.

WESPAC then voted to reopen the fishery. The science behind

**MY REASON** 

From Page 16

one way or another. However, since we have only been provided carefully selected "possibilities" absent any concrete assurances of intent or agreement, and in light of the short time frame they are proposing, I am unable to give support to this endeavor. If Pew decides that this is no longer worthy if

we do not accept their abbreviated timeline, then I would like to suggest that perhaps this is not the organization we want to advocate for us. Legitimate environmental concerns should be addressed by weighing the needs (not wants) of all the stakeholders; however, careful consideration should be given to the proposal as a whole!

Rosemary Camacho Kagman, Saipan

Credit Union

PO Pay 500135 Sainan MP 96050

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez through the Commonwealth Government Employees' Credit Union Board of Directors (BOARD) hereby gives notice that the BOARD has rescheduled its April 29, 2008 meeting for Tuesday, May 13, 2008, at 1:30 pm at the Credit Union Office in Capitol Hill, Saipan. The following agenda will be discussed:

- I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call
  - C. Adoption of AgendaD. Adoption of Minutes
    - February 5, 2008
- I. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
  - A. Collection Status
  - B. Financial Report-Monthly
  - C. Operational Matters
- III. OLD BUSINESS
  A. Audit Status
- B. SCU

IV.

- NEW BUSINESS
  A. Election of Officers
- V. MISCELLANEOUS
- VI. ADJOURNMENT
- /s/ Frances A. Castro Secretary

WESPAC's management is also lagging, which is why it talks about experimental fisheries. Failures to develop methods to catch swordfish in Hawaii without also catching endangered sea turtles, like the loggerhead and leatherback, forced the closure of the fisheries, again, in 2006. This was only after the fishermen were allowed to catch the quota of turtles set by the federal government: http://www.earthjustice.org/news/press/006/hawaiian-swordfish-fishery-closes-over-high-sea-turtle-catch.html What WESPAC did then was move its long-line fisheries operations elsewhere.

A marine monument that would be co-managed by the CNMI and the NOAA Marine Sanctuaries program avoids all the pitfalls of business oriented, politically motivated fisheries management, by setting aside an area where no commercial fishing is allowed. If WESPAC truly had the interests of the fishermen at heart, then it would really want a marine monument. This no-take protected area would not only allow the fish to reproduce, but would also allow them to grow big. It is a well-known fact that large females produce the most eggs, which will produce offspring to provide fish to other areas through a spillover effect.

Who can blame the local CNMI government for bowing down and catering to WESPAC? Honestly, the Governor and the Legislature never had a chance! WESPAC had plenty of practice in Hawaii, honing its skills, before targeting our little government. Let's look at what a government that is infiltrated by WESPAC, like a malignant virus, really looks like. Here is the April 2008 WESPAC directory listing all the members: http://www.wpcouncil.org/about/contact.pdf. Anybody see a conflict of interest? See also the meeting in March: http://www.mvariety.com/?module=displaystory&story\_id=8508&format=html

For the definitive low-down on WESPAC, see *The Plundering of the Pacific* "The cats who run the fishhouse" by Paul Koberstein. In it, he describes how the personal business interests of federal fishery managers collide with their job to protect endangered wildlife:

http://www.monachus-guardian.org/mguard12/1221covsto1.htm No wonder WESPAC is under two federal investigations for this kind of thing in Hawaii: http://belammc.com/wespac/

If they truly want to help the commercial fishermen, and not as they are doing, which is to overexploit the fisheries resources to the point of collapse, then WESPAC would embrace this concept of a marine national monument. The real reason it opposes this proposal is that WESPAC opposes all permanent closures of ocean waters to fishing, period.

Another reason WESPAC should like the marine monument pro-See WHY on Page 18



# **Letters to the Editor**

# Do we really need new chiefs?

Like other previous letterwriters on the issue did, let me assure everyone that I am also not a member of any organization that has been involved in this federalization fever that has been hovering over us for quite a while now. Even when I was still working as a paralegal for Dekada's counsel last year, I

never joined the group or any other group allied to it, believing that I can best maintain my objectivity and impartiality in expressing my views that way. Nonetheless, I believe that my choice does not make me less of an affected guest worker. Hence, I would like to express my opinion on the issue of the propriety

of forming a new coalition of guest workers at this time.

I do not intend to offend the leaders of this new group because I know that they are well-meaning and may have the interest of the guest workers really in their mind. On the other hand, I cannot blame the doubters. I always consider doubt as a healthy sign. As one Stanislaw Leszczynski (1677-1766) said, "To believe with certainty we must begin with doubting." And it is also through doubting that we learn. Wilson Mizner (1876-1933) said, "I respect faith, but doubt is what gets you an education." I myself is in doubt and thereupon expect to be made certain and be educated by those concerned.

I disagree that we should hide behind the cloak of our own language so as not to be understood by others for fear of embarrassment of what is happening. We should be as brave in exposing our dissension, as we are courageous in making them. After all, dissension is not something to be ashamed of because it is a hallmark of democracy. Besides, dissension is not [yet] our monopoly, although it's fast becoming a habit for some people. I also do not believe that you would know that division is emerging elsewhere by simply being present in every meet-

ing of the new group. While the new group espouses unity and cooperation among guest workers, it seems the opposite is resulting. Just feel the emotion attached to various letters to the editors recently, as well as various posts online. You can feel the strain and tension. The polarization among guest workers, Filipinos in particular, is obvious. Anyone who would dispute this may have either been suffering from a momentary See DO WE on Page 20

WHY

From Page 17

posal is that it compliments one of its own five planned Fishery Ecosystem Plans: http://www. wpcouncil.org/mariana/Mari-

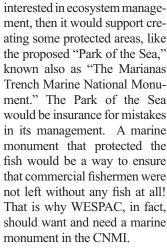
anasFEP/December12005MarianaFEP.pdf . This series of management plans, known as FEPs, includes the Marianas Archipelago. The Marianas Archipelago plan just happens to include the top three northern islands: Maug, Uracus, and

Asuncion. This ecosystem vs. species-based fisheries was developed, because the speciesbased system was a complete and utter failure. See page V for a map of the five FEPs; however, before the table of contents there is a line on page "i" that says in effect: "The measures being considered would reorganize the current fishery regulations by geographic area, but would not result in substantive changes to the existing regulations." Translated, this means: "Business as Usual." In other words, to prevent WESPAC from allowing all the fish to be overfished, it needs the marine

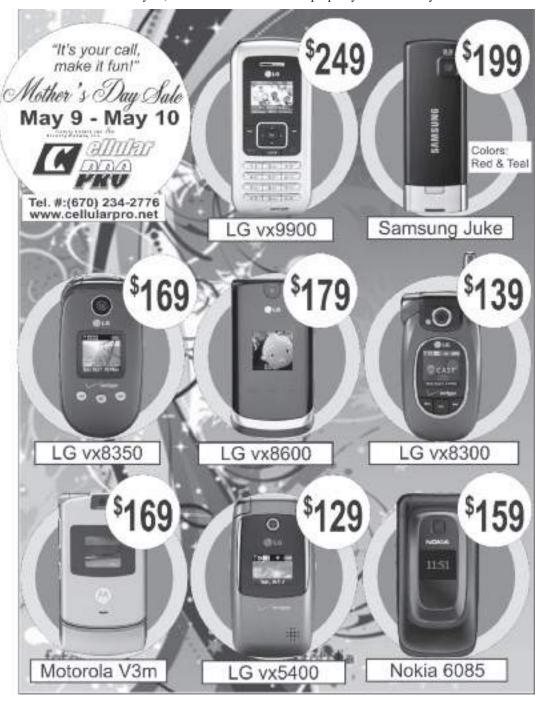
the fish from itself. Finally, if WESPAC was truly interested in ecosystem management, then it would support creating some protected areas, like the proposed "Park of the Sea," known also as "The Marianas Trench Marine National Monument." The Park of the Sea would be insurance for mistakes in its management. A marine monument that protected the fish would be a way to ensure that commercial fishermen were not left without any fish at all!

national monument to protect

monument in the CNMI. Ken Kramer



Fina Sisu, Saipan





4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the Office of Personnel Management in Garapan, Saipan no later than 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, 2008.

Inquiries may be directed to Christy N. Kintol, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6245 or by email to administration@cda.gov.mp.

Oscar C. Camacho Acting Chief Executive Officer



# "FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT"

Friendly, smiling, dependable, outgoing, hard working, & great team players.

We are looking for reliable people to work on our customer service team and at the same time improving upon their own working skills.

Applicant must be able to demonstrate great people skills; good written and spoken English and strong math skills & a High School or GED graduate required.

Must have a reliable transportation with the ability to show to work as scheduled and on time. Must be able and willing to learn new skills, take directions and follow company rule. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including Sunday's and Holiday's.

Application available @ Shell Gualo Rai, Shell San Roque, & Shell Susupe, Turn in application at any our Delta Stations.

# FOR LOCAL & IR ONLY

# NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Shell we are made to move!



# Carmen Safeway

# **SUPERMARKET**

**OPEN DAILY 6:00AM (MONDAY-SUNDAY)** 



**Chicken Leg Quarter** 33.07#



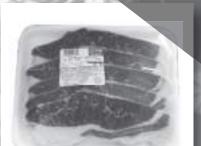
Whole Chicken Sunland 20#



**US Beef Spare Ribs** 20#



**Beef Striploin Steak US Choice** 



**Beef Brisket Tinala US Choice** 

# other s

# Trozen



**Beef Ribeye US CML** 



**Beef Tripe** Scalded U.S.



**Pork Hocks** Whole **L 59** L /lb.



**Cornish Game** Hen 22 oz.

**)89** 



Chicken **Stewing** 

39

# Carmen's Safeway Supermarket

Setaway

# MS. PAULINA CEPED

**ROUND TRIP TO MANILA SPONSORED BY CARMEN'S SAFEWAY** AND \$200 SPENDING MONEY **SPONSORED BY: D&Q DISTRIBUTOR** 

roducts

# rocery

**Zee Napkins** 360 ct.



**Soft N Gentle Tissue 12 Rolls** 



Joy Dishwashing Lemon 16 oz.





Hot 240 g.



Takeya Tokujyo Miso 1 kg. Japan



**Kao Detergent Attack** 1.1 kg. Japan



**Campbells Spaghetti** w/ Cheese 14.75 oz.



**Hormel Chili Hot** No Beans 15 oz.



**Western Family** Tomato Whole 14.5 oz.





Onion, Yellow US





Romaine

Hearts Lettuce \$756

**Russet US** 

**Brocolli Crown US** 

**68** 

# he Liquor Shoppe The Cargest Selection of Wine & Liquor

Takara Japan Sochu 700 ml Japan



Rum, Malibu White 750 ml



**Marques De Caseres Dry White Wine** 



# No SHEFA response yet to OPA findings

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com

A month after receiving the Public Auditor's report, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance Program has yet to respond to any of the findings of the OPA.

Rep. Tina Sablan said it is not clear to her at all that why SHE-

FA cannot respond at this point to the OPA findings.

"We were hoping to ask questions and receive answers from you at our last Saipan delegation meeting session and we were told then that you were preparing a response. One month later, we are here again and we still have questions that still have not been answered," Sablan told the

SHEFA board during a meeting yesterday.

She said she has not heard any adequate justifications as to why the SHEFA board could not "at this time respond to at least some of the findings."

Some of the findings cited were SHEFA's non-compliance with rules and regulations, a finding that \$200

from operations were reprogrammed to buy a wreath for a funeral, and SHEFA's noncompliance with CNMI procurement regulations.

"The list goes on," Sablan said.
"I really don't understand why we have to wait any longer. We're here now and I'm sure you're familiar of the findings of the Public Auditor," Sablan said.

Felicidad T. Ogumoro, chairwoman of the SHEFA board of directors, said the board would like to be given an opportunity to complete its final report before addressing any of the OPA findings.

"We're working very diligently to complete it. Some of our students out there are worrying as to what's happening and we want to allay their fears. We want them to know that we're working very hard and moving

along," Ogumuro said.

She assured the SHEFA's final report will be completed no later than the end of May.

The OPA has recently found that officials in charge of the SHEFA have misused public funds through questionable hiring and improper payments to board members.

SHEFA has been conducting its own review of alleged mismanagement at the scholarship agency.

# **DO WE**

From Page 18

glaucoma or loss of smell or is simply not being truthful and honest. The nudge is felt from the outside, not from within. Listen to the guest workers outside and you will hear diverse views and positions on this. As you know, there are already two Filipinos both surnamed "Franciscos" clashing on the issue. If you still call that unifying, I wonder what dictionary you are using. I also disagree that this is a plain and simple issue of right to form an organization in a democratic society. This is a fundamental truth—so plainly true that its use is frequently abused as an excuse. The more important question is whether or not forming a new group at this time is healthy, respectful, and would really promote the interest of the guest workers.

In any event, I have observed that most of the leaders of the new group are the same people who marched on the street side by side with Dekada leaders at the famous Unity March. Aren't you the same leaders who were erstwhile singing one common tune in the same choir? Were you not successful to a certain extent in being heard? What went wrong? Had the voices of the choir simply became so discordant and lost symmetry?

Or do some people, as one letter writer seems to imply, want now to be baton leaders? We are your subject and we are in doubt. Can you please make us certain?

I also observe that the new group's mission is "to seek legal means to improve the lives of the guest workers and our families in the CNMI." Isn't this the same goal advocated by Dekada and all its erstwhile allied groups, i.e., to seek "improved status" for guest workers? Is that not simply duplication? Does this new group know of other "legal means" to achieve the same goal that have yet been left unexplored by the original group? Please educate us what "legal means" are available. And if there is a new tune that you want us to sing, please advice so we can fine-tune our voices so we can sing with you

a la Pempengco. I also would like to ask why only now? Other than a vague reference to "changing times" and "[the need for a] coalition that is run by guest workers and for alien workers," it has not been made clear yet why is there a need to form a new coalition at this very late hour. Isn't it that the most critical time has already passed, when everything was yet on the drawing stage, when leaders, including leaders of this new group, were on the hot seat in various forms? Is in't it that there's already a glimpse of hope achieved that simply requires continuing, cultivating, and nurturing? Or are there new tracks that should require us to change our horse midstream? What peculiar characteristics or fields of specialization which the other leaders and their counsel lack and which you have and which is required to address any perceived changed

circumstances brought about by "changing times"? It is not wise to euthanize a horse midstream, especially if it's leading. And it is doubly unwise to be ungrateful to the jockey, who although not a horse, has been guiding the horse professionally and expertly in his desire to give the horse an improved image. Allow me then to thank Attorney Woodruff, and all the other non-guest workers who have been helping the leaders in their thrust for improved status for guest workers. I agree that inviting Dekada

to be a part of the coalition is good, but not necessarily respectful. Would that not cast insult to the leaders of this group which was in the forefront from Day 1, at which time the going was very, very, very rough. Is that not like Robin, who after gaining some success in their mission, would suddenly bolt out of his tandem with Batman and form a new coalition with Superman. And then in the call of unity, Superman and Robin invited Batman to join their team to continue exactly the same mission. Would it not be more acceptable and appropriate if Dekada and its remaining allied groups instead invite Ms. Tantiado and the "new but old" leaders to join and rejoin them in their successful endeavors. Or perhaps, Ms. Tantiado can take the initiative to mediate and conciliate whatever differences, if any, between the "new but old leaders" and the leaders of Dekada and its allied groups, try to bring them together in a dialogue and embark once more in their continuing quest for the betterment of the guest workers. Isn't that a more sincere act of unifying as opposed to forming a new group? Unless there are other valid reasons which we,

guest workers, are not aware of at this time, I cannot see the wisdom of forming another new group at this time. I do not see the need to change a winning formula.

As I said, I do not mean to offend the leaders of this new coalition. I am aware that some of you have sacrificed a lot for us guest workers. But can you not just pick up the broken pieces, have a dialogue with your coleaders, then come up with a more responsive and unified approach so that that you can lead your flock properly and effectively? As Ms. Tantiado accurately pointed out, "[t]he clock is ticking and the time to stand alongside each other is right now." Hence, there is no time for re-inventing the wheel, re-shaping, and forming a new organization.

I express my thanks and respect to leaders of both groups for all what you have done for us and for what you are doing. But we, your subjects, deserve respect as well. We do not like to be treated as chess pieces. We do not want to be confused nor be blinded with false promises. Guest workers have long been united, but the unity seems to be hibernating somewhere among some leaders—hopefully not too long for it might be too late.

In closing, I have read an article online which is very relevant. It is titled "Too Many Chiefs...Not Enough Leaders (action needed more than planning) so eloquently written by a woman leader named Julianne Malveaux. You may want to read it online at www.highbeam. com/doc/1G1-54938047.html.

Mario N. Corpus Garapan, Saipan



Part-Time position available for our Saipan location. Applicant must have extensive knowledge of PCs. Position involves diagnosing and repairing personal computers and also customer service. Background in electronics a plus.

# **Computer Technician**

# Requirements:

- US permanent resident
- Must be able to lift heavy objects
- Friendly and self-motivated
- Excellent communication skills
- Dependable transportation



234-7368



SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 **21** 

# Island Snapshots



**ROTARY GUEST** 

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Rotary Club of Guam's Bill Hagen talks to Rotary Club of Saipan members during the group's regular Tuesday meeting at the Hyatt Regency's Giovanni's restaurant.



**HAPPY MOMENT** FOR KING FAMILY

Janet King, assistant public defender and native of

Tinian, was recently sworn in to practice in the federal courts of Hawaii and the CNMI. She is pictured here with her father, Juan Borja King, and mother, Lucy Han King.



**APIL CONFERENCE** 

Sen. Maria Pangelinan of the CNMI listen to the proceedings during the start of the Association of Pacific Islands Legislatures assembly Monday morning in Guam. The CNMI delegation also included Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero and Oscar Babauta. The 27th General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures lasted until yesterday.



**NEW CUC CHIEF** 

Newly appointed Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio S. Muna gestures during Monday's press conference at the CUC office in Dandan.



**NMC PRESENTATION** 

House Committee on Health, Education & Welfare chair Rep. Ralph DLG Torres gives his remarks during Tuesday's meeting with Northern Marianas College representatives at the House chamber on Capital



**TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK** 

Hopwood Junior High School teachers gather near the campus main office as they celebrate Teacher Day Tuesday afternoon as part of the National Teacher Appreciation Week. During the event, thousands of students and communities take time out to honor their local educators and acknowledge the contributions they make to our lives.



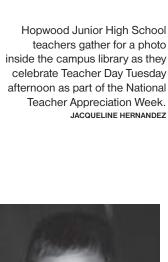
**UNDERWATER SURVEY** 

Archaeologists Michael Krivor of Southeastern Archaeological Research, Inc., and Jason Burns (not in photo) present the preliminary results of an underwater survey they recently completed under contract with the CNMI Division of Historic Preservation during a public lecture called "2008 Underwater Archaeological Survey of the Saipan Invasion Beaches: The Latest News from the Field," at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Theater Monday night. The lecture was co-sponsored by the NMI Council for the Humanities and the Division of Historic Preservation. JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



**BIRTHDAY BOY** 

Belated happy birthday to Trevor Jude Sangalang Aguon, who celebrated his third birthday yesterday, May 8, 2008. Wishing you many more birthdays to come! "I love and miss you Trev." Greetings come from Aunty Nessie. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO









WASC VISIT

Hopwood Junior High School teachers and staff listen to Western Association of Schools and Colleges chair Robert Maez and representatives Richard Anbe and Roberta Abaday as they report on the accreditation of the school Tuesday.

# Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana Ofisinan I Gubietno Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

#### NOTISIA POT PLANON MA-ATKILAN TANO PUBLIKO

Segun i tineteka na patte gi Lai Publiko 15-2, i Depattamenton Tano ha publilika planon para uma-atkila tano publiko guine giya Notte Marianas. Todo membron publikon iya Marianas libre man-nahalom opinion pot este na plano 'sino otro hinasso pot priniponen atkilon maseñala para uma-atkila na tano publiko.

I mapropone na atkilon ma-deskribe komo Lot No. 002 E 03 `nai guaha 4,619 metro kuatdrao; Lot No. 002 E 04, i dinañkuloña 4,622 metro kuatdrao; yan, Lot No. 012 E 03, dinañkuloña 3,060 metro kuatdrao, poko mas o'menos. I mapan este na tano publiko gaige gi Depattamenton Tano.

I applikante i kompanian Huang Zheng Corporation, Ltd., un' kompania guine giya Marianas. A presidenten este na kompania si Señor Quan Huang. Si Mr. Huang kontratistan este na atkilon ya inasiste as Señor Tony Reyes.

Si Mr. Huang para u usa i lugat para bisnis lulog, alumimum, yan papet katton, lugat para materiat siha (warehouse), manbenden materiat para mahatsan guma, bisnis produkton tase yan man-repean boti.

I tetminon atkilon para bente siñko (25) años ya siña marinueba para kinse (15) años mas na tiempo. I atkilon siempre uma-detetmina akuanto pot siento kada sakan segun i maprepara na ripot balin este siha na tano. I mapropopone na kontratan atkilon siña in' rikonose gi maseha mano na offisinan Depattamenton Tano entalo Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. I Depattamenton Tano trabiha ti man-resisibe otro planon uson este siha na tano publiko.

I Sekretarion Depattamenton Tano listo para u resibe opiñion publiko pot uson este siha na tano antes de Mayu

### ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipel, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor måfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiyeghiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekke bwáári Lot No. 002 E 03, eyoor faawu sangaras olabwughuw seigh me tiwoow llapal (4,619 square meters), elapeló me ngáre eghús, Lot No. 002 E 04, eyoor faawu sangaras olabwughuw reweigh me ruwoow llapal (4,622 square meters) elapelo me ngare eghus me Lot No. 012 E 03, eyoor eluuw sangaras oleigh llapal (3,060 square meters), elo Lower Base, Seipel. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngare óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- Schóól akkilon nge Huang Zheng Corporation., CNMI corporation LTD. Mr. Quang Huang nge ii schagh ii. Samwoolul (President) corporation yeel.

Schéschéél samwoolul corporation yeel nge Quan Huang.

- iii. Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Quan Huang fengal me alillisil Mr. Tony A. Reyes.
- iv. Schóól akkilon ebwe ayoora bwuley reel recycling, sookko, wiisal tenda matiriyóód, retail/wholesale reel mwungol leeset, me ammwelil bwoot.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limoow ráágh (15 years).

Meel akkilon yeel nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (value of the property).

- Emmwel bwe tilighial akkilon óubwe bwughil mellol bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building Ilol Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.
- Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo bwal eew pomwol akkilon ye elo iv.
- Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal schagh Ghuuw (May) 14, 2008 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta me ngare Tchúlúyol.

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 002 E 03, containing an area of approximately 4,619 square meters, more or less, Lot No. 002 E 04, containing an area of approximately 4,622 square meters, more or less, and Lot No. 012 E 03, containing an area of approximately 3,060 square meters, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcels is available at the Department of
- ii. The prospective lessee is Huang Zheng Corporation., Ltd., a CNMI corporation. Mr. Quan Huang is the

The president of the corporation is Mr. Quan Huang.

- iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Quan Huang with the assistance of Mr. Tony A. Reyes.
- iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating facilities for recycling, a warehouse, retail of hardware materials, retail/wholesale of seafood products, and boat repair and

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value

- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
- The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in
- vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before May 14, 2008 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

# **MLK Chautauqua performance tonight**

manities invites the public to attend "An Evening with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." this evening at the Fiesta Hall, Hafadai Hotel at 6pm.

The program will feature a Chautauqua performance by Bill Grimmette, who will portray the late civil rights leader.

Chautauqua is a popular living history program in which historical figures are brought to life by scholars who speak the character's own words and recount stories from their life and times.

Grimmette is a veteran Chautauqua performer and past president of the National Association of Black Story Tellers. He is a perennial performer with the Kennedy Center and at the Smithsonian Institution.

He has performed as Dr. King at a wide variety of venues in the United States for the



Bill Grimmette portrays the late civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

past nine years.

At the conclusion of his monologue, Grimmette will field questions from the audience, both "in

character" as Dr. King and as a Chautauqua scholar.

The event is open to the public and free of charge. (PR)

# DUI checkpoints today and tomorrow

Safety's Traffic section will be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints today and tomorrow, May 9-10.

In tonight's checkpoints, the first setup will be on B/R Susupe by the Multi-Purpose Building. This operation will start at 7:30pm and will end around 8:45pm.

The second setup will be on Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Garapan by Horizon Building. This operation will begin

at approximately 11:15pm.

Tomorrow, the first set p will be on Beach Road Chalan Kanoa by Meena's Store. This operation will start around 7:30pm and will terminate at about 8:45pm.

The second setup will be on Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Gualo Rai by Sherwin-Williams Building. This operation will start at 10pm and will end at 11:15pm. PO3. Juan C. Mendiola or Sgt.

The Department of Public around 10pm and will terminate will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) at each location. This activity is part of the department's efforts to deter and detect and ensure that all vehicle occupants are protected.

> In addition, traffic officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrols, aggressive driver interdictions, and laser activities.

For more information, contact Each checkpoint conducted Jerry Ayuyu at 664-9085. (DPS)



# The CNMI Head Start Program is pleased to announce Open Registration for School year 2008-2009



# REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Only parents or legal guardians are authorized to register their child(ren).

- Child(ren) birth certificate.
- Head Start Program Forms 3, 4 & 5 (copies can be obtained at the Head Start Office)
- Social Security Card
- School Health Entrance Certificate and medical insurance (if any).
- Parent's/Guardian's verification of income (2 of your most current check stubs or other public assistance, such as Medicaid, WIC or Nutrition Assistance).
- Passport/Visa/Immigration Permit (for non-residents)
- Legal Guardians must provide notarized documents stipulating the guardianship of child(ren).
- Parents of children with disabilities are required to bring

Please be advised that the Head Start Program is a Federally Funded program that has Eligibility and Selection Criteria's. Registering your child does not guarantee automatic enrollment. The program currently enrolls between the ages of 3-5 years old.

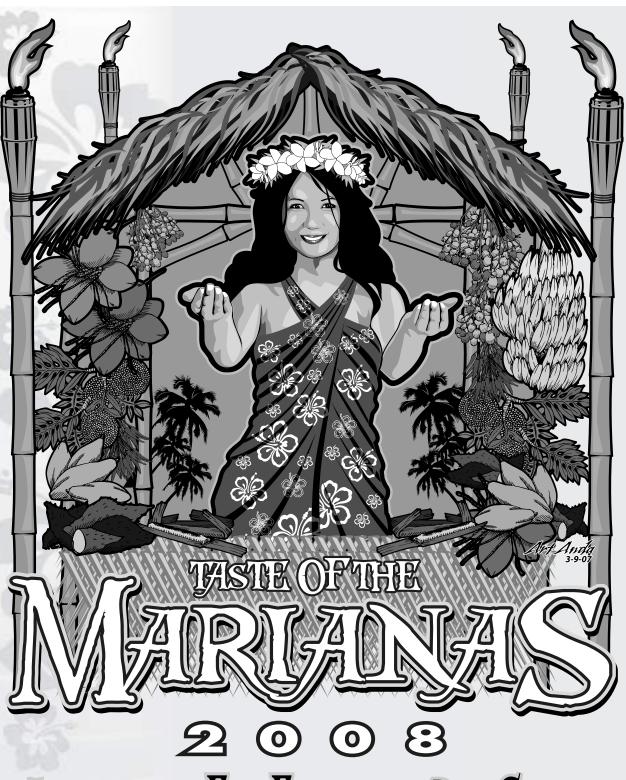
Children cannot be accepted into the program prior to their 3rd birthday.

# For more information:

Please visit office at any Head Start Center near you #1256 Pohnpei Way, Capitol Hill, Saipan

664-3751 or 323-7446

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 **23** 



# INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL AND BEER GARDEN

# AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK

MAY 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 2008

# May 10, 2008 PROGRAM

6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Pacific Wind Ensemble

7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. The Southern Cross Warriors

7:45 p.m. - 8:45p.m. Frozen Nipple 9:00p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Talofa Dancers

# May 17, 2008 Hot Dog Eating Competition

# 2008 Taste of the Marianas vendors:

- 1. Aqua Resort Club, Saipan
- 2. Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan
- 3. Hafadai Beach Hotel
- 4. Hyatt Regency Saipan
- 5. Pacific Islands Club Saipan
- 6. Palms Resort Saipan
- Saipan World Resort
   Mariana Resort & Spa
- 8. Mariana Resort & Spa9. Capricciosa & Tony Roma's
- 10. D'Elegance Café
- 11. Herman's Modern Bakery
- 12. Hula Girl
- 13. Thai House Restaurant
- 14. Poon's Restaurant
- 15. Ty & Tia
- 16. Pacific Trading Company
- 17. MARPAC
- 18. Northern Marianas Bartender Association

For more information, please contact MVA Office (Saipan) at 664-3200/01, MVA Office (Tinian) at 433-9365.

# "Tourism is Everybody's Business"

# **TOURISM MONTH ACTIVITIES**

SAGDAN

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2008

Taste Of The Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden - Event will be held every Saturday in May at the American Memorial Park from 6:00pm to 10:00pm.

# "Hafa Adai Tirow Way Fridays"

Every Friday, the community is encouraged to wear local attire. The community is encouraged to showcase our unique island culture by wearing mwar mwars or local beads.

May 31, 2008

# Tourism Month "Ayuda" Charity Mountain Bike Race

The Ayuda Mountain Bike race will consist of a short course for children 8-12 years of age, short mountain bike race for beginners, and Open Division. Starting point will be at American Memorial Park to Mt. Tapochao and back.

For more information, please contact the MVA office at 664-3200/01 and ask for Ed Diaz.

Radio Trivia Program "Did you know and Fun Facts about Tourism in the CNMI

Awareness on facts about tourism in the CNMI will be aired regularly throughout the month on Power 99 and 97.9 The KAT. Listeners will have a chance to answer tourism question and will have a chance to win prizes.

# 

May 16,2008

# Youth Fam Tour

Student groups will participate on an informative island tour to the major historical and cultural sites. This gives MVA an opportunity to inform them of the importance of protecting and preserving these public sites and facilities.

# May 17,2008

# Island Green Revolution

A beautification activity where youth organizations perform major clean-up of potential tourist sites. Tourist groups on island will also be invited to participate by planting ornamentals or coconut trees alongside sites.





# **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

### MCS Class of '88 meeting today

The Mt. Carmel High School Class of 1988 will have a meeting today, May 9, at 6pm at the Civic Center Pala-Pala next to the tennis courts. Plans for the 20th year reunion need to be finalized and all classmates are encouraged to attend. For more information. contact Kazu at 483-4433 or Angela at 287-6231. (PR)

### **MMAC's Team Hyatt** hosts Family Fun **Night tonight**

The Marianas March Against Cancer's Team Hyatt will be hosting a Family Fun Night today, May 9, 2008, from 5pm to 9pm at the Hyatt Beach Front.

The 2008 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee and Team Hyatt are inviting the public to come down to the Hyatt Regency for a fun-filled evening of entertainment, delicious food and exciting games like spin the wheel, dunking game, balloon darts, face painting, ring toss and more. The entire community is urged to bring the whole family down to support Team Hyatt's efforts in raising funds for the Marianas March Against Cancer which will be held on May 16-17 from 6pm to 6am at the Hopwood Junior High School Track & Field in Chalan Piao. All funds raised at the Hyatt Family Fun Night and at the MMAC will go toward the battle against cancer. Call 234-1234 for more information. (PR)

### **Beautify CNMI** activities

The monthly Beautify CNMI meeting is next week at the Hawaii Grill (which is non-smoking) at 7pm Thursday. There will be an update on the Jake Shimabukuro

concert, we'll discuss the upcoming boonie dog pet show, and it is time to start talking about planting some more Flame Trees.

Friends of the Mariana Islands will be celebrating Mother's Day at FMI headquarters on Sunday starting around 1pm. All FMI volunteers are welcome to attend, please bring something to share. Contact Marites Castillo for more.

Beautify CNMI will also doing cleanups this weekend. FMI will be leading a cleanup of Isa Drive, starting at the Botanical Garden and heading downhill toward NMC. We will meet at 8am at the top of the hill.

Next weekend is a cleanup of Laulau sponsored by FMI and an underwater cleanup of Wing Beach sponsored by Marianas Dive. *(PR)* 

### **Notice to Kagman High seniors**

Attention parents and guard-

ians of Kagman High School seniors: We would like those seniors of Kagman High School that exited in December of 2007 to please come to Kagman High School on May 12, 2008 at 8am. Also there will be a meeting for all graduating seniors of Kagman High School on the same day, May 12, 2008 at 6pm in the school cafeteria. (PR)

### **TES** registration schedule

Tanapag Elementary School will start registering returning students, new students and kindergarten students on May 12, 2008 through May 30, 2008 from 8am to 4pm at the main office.

Registration Requirements:

- 1. Registration Form
- 2. Child must be 5 years old by August 31, 2008. (For Kindergarten)
- 3. Withdrawal/Transfer Form from previous school (For transferring students)

- 4. Birth Certificate
- 5. School Entrance Health Certificate
- 6. Copy of updated Health Insurance/Updated Medicaid
- 7. Map to Residence/Home
- 8. Copy of Power of Attorney or Guardianship (If applicable)

Please call the school at 664-3425/6 or 237-3161/4 for any question. (PR)

### MHS Class of '88 meeting

This is to inform the Marianas High School Class of 1988 that there will be a meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2008, at the residence of Melvin and Eleanor Cepeda in As Lito, behind Saipan International School, at 6:30pm.

All classmates are also beto submit their dues is May 15. 2008. Your attendance at this meeting is very important. We are encouraging each and everyone of you to please come.

For more information you may contact Lillian Lizama Tudela at 287-3742 or Dennis Villagomez at 287-4689. *(PR)* 

### **Benito Clan reunion** meeting

This is to inform the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Vicente Gogue Taitano and Juan Gogue Taitano "Benito Clan" that the actual date of the reunion that was previously scheduled for July 18-19, 2008, has been pushed forward to July 11-12, 2008.

The next meeting for the "Benito Clan" will be on Wednesday, May 14, 2008, at the residence of Jose M. and Merced T. Taitano in Tanapag, at 6pm.

Family members are urged ing reminded that the dateline to please attend this important meeting.

> For more information you may contact Eleanor Aldan Cepeda at 483-6358 or Cecilia Taitano Celis at 285-0607. (PR)



# **COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (1-670) 664-3500/1 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

# **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RUNWAY 09/27 SHOULDER AND NEW GENERATOR, PHASE 2, PROJECT NO. CPA-

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at 2:00 PM, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of providing paved shoulders for both sides of the existing 6,000 feet of runway, providing new electrical conduits and new edge light, providing new generator and fuel tank and constructing generator room, grading and earthworks, and other related works in accordance with the plans and specifications hereinafter as parts of the Contract Document

Bidder's attention is called to the Bidder's Qualification Statement, Section LP-4 that a prospective bidder must submit it along with bid proposals. The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all Bidders and may reject the bidder based on unsatisfied bidder's qualification based on its best interest.

After receipt of bids the Owner will perform evaluation of the apparent lowest responsible and responsive bidder. The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, bonding and insurance. In the event that the apparent lowest responsible and responsive bidder is determined unqualified or unsatisfied to the Owner based on the evaluation, the Owner will perform a secondary evaluation of the qualifications of the next apparent lowest responsible and responsive bidder until a qualified lowest bidder is determined.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in accordance with Item G-I00-3,2 (Contract Time) of the General Project Requirement of the Technical Specification. Liquidated damages shall be in accordance with **Item G-I00-3.4 (Liquidated Damages)** of the General Project Requirements and shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section 70-25 of the specifications

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Non-segregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C Ada/Salpan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each CD-Rom. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in casher's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA AIRPORT CONFERENCE ROOM, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at 10:00 a.m., FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2008, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders shall be required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CPR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications and bid proposal documents available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of \$50,000 or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by an U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ LEE C. CABRERA

April 30, 2008



### COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



# AMENDED INVITATION TO BID NO. 01 **NMHC IFB08-007**

This ad is paid for with HUD funds.

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **CONSTRUCTION OF THE NORTHERN** MARIANAS JAPAN CULTURAL CENTER PERIMETER PATHWAY/GROUTED ROCK RIPRAP/SITE LIGHTING in Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Friday, May 2, 2008, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI and austerity holidays. A non-refundable payment of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidders are advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act and the labor standard provisions for wage rate determination of the Commonwealth. All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of \$3.55 per hour which took effect on July 25, 2007 as established by U.S. law. Bidders are further advised to participate the increase of \$.50 per hour that is scheduled to take effect on May 26, 2008.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 12, 2008, at the Northern Marianas Japan Cultural Center in Garapan, Saipan next to the Garapan Central Park, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked NMHC ITB-08-007. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 23, 2008. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 23, 2008 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service no later than May 23, 2008 AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than June 4, 2008. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 5, 2008. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m., local time, May 23, 2008.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Construction Portion for the Landscaping of the NM Japan Cultural Center Project". Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable le to the Attorney General.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety.

PERFORMANCE TIME IS AMENDED: Performance time for completion of this project is changed from Ninety (90) to Sixty (60) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Five Hundred Dollars (US\$500.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provided to the Commonwealth. This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

All documents received shall be the sole property of the NMHC with the exception of the Bid Bond, Certified Check, or Cashier's Check, which will be returned to the proposers after the acceptance and award of contract to the successful contractor.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/ Manuel A. Sablan NMHC Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director **Division of Procurement & Supply** 

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 **25** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Business**

# **BankPacific promotes** four to key positions

Philip Flores, president and chairman of the board of Bank-Pacific recently announced the following promotions:

Rizalina "Sally" de Ramos was promoted to senior accountant. De Ramos received a bachelor's degree in Business

Administration major in Accounting from the University of the East in Manila. Philippines. Majority of her work experience has been in the accounting field in the banking

business.





de Vera

Arnold Q. Rabena was promoted to accountant II. After graduation from John F. Kennedy High School he earned his BBA degree with a major in Accounting from the University of Guam. Rabena has over 20 years of accounting experience, and has been with the BankPacific family for more

than 16 years.

Jean de Vera was promoted to accountant II. She is a graduate of the University of Iloilo, Philippines with a bachelor's degree in Commerce major in Accounting. De Vera has over 20 years of banking experience in both

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de Ramos

also been a key player in assisting affiliate company Pacific Basin Investment Corp. and she is a licensed insurance subagent.

"We congratulate all of our staff for their dedication, commitment and continued growth with our BankPacific family," said Flores. (BankPacific)

# Oil jumps over \$123 on drop in diesel

NEW YORK (AP)—Oil futures extended their seemingly relentless advance Wednesday, rising to a new record near \$124 a barrel as investors captivated by the market's upward momentum looked past the government's report of an increase in crude and gasoline supplies. At the pump, gas prices rose for the first time since last week.

Light, sweet crude for June delivery hit a new trading record of \$123.93 in after-hours activity on the New York Mercantile Exchange after settling up \$1.69 at a record close of \$123.53 a barrel.

Analysts attributed oil's rise to continued buying from the surge that pushed prices past \$120 for the first time earlier this week. The fact that

prices didn't decline sharply after the inventory report was released signaled to some investors that the market was ripe for another rally.

"It shows you that this market ... at times just ignores bearish news," said Phil Flynn, an analyst at Alaron Trading Corp. in Chicago. "It's just momentum."

Earlier, oil prices waffled as traders were torn between relief that crude and gasoline supplies are rising and worries about rising demand and falling distillate stockpiles.

The Energy Department's Energy Information Administration said in a weekly report that inventories of distillate fuels, which include diesel and heating oil, fell unexpectedly while gasoline demand rose slightly last week. Traders chose to focus on those numbers and shrug off crude inventories, which rose much more than analysts predicted, and gasoline supplies, which increased when analysts forecast a decline.

# Paulson: Credit crisis may be fading

WASHINGTON (AP)—The worst of the nation's credit crisis may have passed, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said Wednesday, though he acknowledged rising gas prices will blunt the effect of 130 million economic stimulus checks.

He ruled out a second stimu-

lus package for now.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Paulson said the turmoil that has gripped Wall Street and that took a turn for the worse again in March has eased somewhat. "There's progress," he said. "I think we're closer to the end of this" than to the beginning.

A prolonged housing slump, a severe credit crisis and soaring energy costs have pushed the economy to the edge of a recession. To help cushion the blow, the Bush administration and Congress speedily enacted a \$168 billion stimulus package of tax rebates for people and tax breaks for businesses.



# Stocks retreat as oil prices creep higher

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Wall Street tumbled Wednesday as the price of a barrel of oil soared to a record near \$124 and touched off concerns that the stock market's recent gains might have been premature as consumers grapple with rising energy and food costs. The major stock market indexes each lost more than 1.5 percent, with the Dow Jones industrial average declining by more than 200 points. The Dow fell 206.48, or 1.59 percent, to 12,814.35, after fluctuating early in the session. Broader stock indicators also declined. The S&P 500 fell 25.69, or 1.81 percent, to 1,392.57, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 44.82, or 1.80 percent, to 2,438.49.

### **Consumer borrowing unexpectedly** surges in March

WASHINGTON (AP)—Consumer borrowing rose in March at the fastest pace in four months, more than double the increase of the previous month, in what was seen as a sign of rising economic stress. The Federal Reserve reported Wednesday that consumers increased their borrowing at an annual rate of 7.2 percent, compared with a 3.1 percent rate of increase in February. The gain was much larger than economists had been expecting and reflected strong borrowing on credit cards and also in the category that includes auto loans. The increase in consumer debt totaled \$15.3 billion at an annual rate in March, much bigger than the \$6 billion increase that economists had been expecting.

### Clearwire, Sprint Nextel to form \$14.55B wireless company

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Clearwire and Sprint Nextel have resurrected their plan to offer high-speed mobile Internet service with the help of some deep-pocketed supporters. The two companies announced Wednesday they will combine their wireless broadband units to create a \$14.55 billion communications company, to be called Clearwire, that will continue developing a mobile network based on WiMax technology. WiMax is similar to the WiFi service found in coffee shops, airports and many homes but more powerful—and able to cover whole cities, in some cases. It promises faster speeds than the latest cellular networks for movies, games and other data services.



# Winners named in 'JA Banks In Action' tilt

teams comprising 20 students from George Washington High School in Mangilao devised a winning strategy and were selected as the Top Five of the first ever "JA Banks In Action" Guam Competition.

On May 2, Citi and Junior Achievement Guam held the JA Banks In Action Awards ceremony at the University of Guam's Student Services Center. A total of 169 George Washington High School students from Applied Math, Consumer Math and Government classes participated in this first JA Banks In Action program and competition.

George Washington High School teachers Joann SudoBlas and Vivian Killingbeck to the Top Five teams. It would accepted the award on behalf of the school. The students were awarded certificates in recognition of their performance.

"Citi is delighted to join JA Worldwide and share our knowledge, experience and excitement about the banking industry with students around the world through JA Banks in Action. We hope young people will be inspired to pursue careers in the financial services industry as well as gain an understanding of how financial institutions help people manage their money and achieve their life goals," said Madhu Seshadri, Country Business Manager/ Corporate Country Officer, Citi Guam. "Congratulations Elimination Round of the North

be great for Guam to be in the final round in New York. We wish you all the best."

"Junior Achievement is grateful for the tremendous support of the Citi Foundation in making this program and competition possible. We also thank the Citi volunteers for their time and outstanding mentoring and guidance for the students in this program. We are excited that Guam is competing in the Virtual Elimination Round and we wish the best to all the teams," said Mike Naholowaa, chairman of the board, Junior Achievement of Guam.

The Top Five teams will represent Guam in the Virtual



George Washington High School winners with Citi and JA. They will represent Guam in the Virtual Elimination Round of the 2008 JA Banks In Action North American Championship.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Junior Achievement Guam presents Citi volunteers with certificates of appreciation for their tireless dedication in volunteering for JA Banks In Action.



Citi volunteers Rhea Nygard and Ryan Roman discussing the lesson with George Washington High School





Realty Management Services A TanHoldings Company

Realty Management services is a fullservice property management company located on the island of Saipan in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

> PMB 521 Box 10000 Saipan, MP 96950-8900 Tel: 1 (670) 235-6527/28 Fax: (670) 235-6530 sales@rmssaipan.com www.rmssaipan.com

# SUNSETVIEW TERRACES



ΓERRACES

Spacious two bedroom terrace apartments with a beautiful view of Western Saipan from Navy Hill. All units feature a private balcony and are fully furnished.

FREE wireless DSL internet service.

- 24 Hour Water
- Laundry area
- Night time security
- Backup Generator
- Typhoon Shutters On-call maintenance staff

Membership to Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and enjoy these VIP privileges :

- 1 Free Sunday Brunch Buffet for two
- 20% discount on food and
- 20% discount on drinks after happy
- Above discounts good for up to 6

American Championship to be held on May 7, 2008. The Top Ten teams from the Virtual Elimination Round nationwide will compete face-to-face for the Top Three places at the Final Round in New York City on June 30 and July 1.

The first JA "Banks In Action" Guam program and competition was made possible through a \$15,000 grant from the Citi Foundation, the global sponsor of JA Banks In Action.

JA Worldwide is the world's largest organization dedicated to inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy. Through a dedicated volunteer network, JA Worldwide provides in-school and afterschool programs for students in grades K-12. JA Worldwide offers educational programs that focus on seven key content areas: business, citizenship, economics, entrepreneurship, ethics/ character, financial literacy, and career development. Today, 140 individual area operations reach approximately four million students in the United States, with more than 3.5 million students served by operations in 114 countries worldwide. For more information, visit www.ja.org. (Citi)

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 **27** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Nation**

# **Army OKs \$248M in barracks repairs**

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP)— Spc. Loren Dauterman, who trained at Fort McCov in Wisconsin last month with the National Guard. found something good to say about the falling-apart floors and ceilings in her quarters.

Barely.

"It is better than sleeping out in the woods," Dauterman said last week, "but not a whole lot better."

Thousands of soldiers at Fort Mc-Coy, Fort Campbell and elsewhere are assigned to barracks built for the GIs who fought World War II and the Korean War. The buildings are showing their age, and the soldiers are getting fed up.

After a soldier's father posted a video on YouTube last month showing the dilapidated barracks for paratroopers at Fort Bragg, N.C., Defense Secretary Robert Gates called those conditions appalling and ordered base commanders to ensure their troops have proper quarters.

The commanders have their work cut out for them.

A spot check by Associated Press reporters over the past week found many barracks plagued by recurring problems with mold, mildew and their plumbing and wiring.

In many cases, the cramped, wooden units were scheduled for destruction, but Army leaders facing space and economic constraints from the

# Sharpton arrested, as hundreds protest NYC police groom shooting

NEW YORK (AP)—The Rev. Al Sharpton was arrested at the Brooklyn Bridge on Wednesday as he and hundreds of demonstrators blocked traffic to protest the acquittal of three detectives in the 50-bullet shooting of an unarmed black man on his wedding day.

Sharpton, two survivors of the shooting and the slain man's fiancee were among about a dozen people arrested on disorderly conduct charges near the base of the bridge. Police led away demonstrators at several other bridges and tunnels in the city.

The protests were part of a coordinated campaign to urge federal authorities to investigate the November 2006 shooting of Sean Bell. Three officers were acquitted of state charges last month.

Sharpton, shooting survivors Trent Benefield and Joseph Guzman, and Bell's fiancee, Nicole Paultre Bell, lined up and peacefully put their hands behind their backs as police put plastic handcuffs on them. Sharpton and Bell were placed in a police vehicle.

The civil rights leader is seeking a federal civil rights probe into Bell's shooting outside a Queens nightclub. The case raised questions about police use of deadly force in minority neighborhoods.

Sharpton had promised recently to "close this city down" with civil disobedience.

Bell was black, as are his friends Benefield and Guzman; the three officers acquitted in the case are Hispanic, black and white.



This April 2008 handout photo released Thursday, May 1, 2008 by Ed Frawley, shows an unidentified soldier of Charlie Company perched on a sink as he tries to unclog the drain in a flooded bathroom in barracks where Charlie Company was housed at Fort Bragg, N.C.

war in Iraq have again filled the old barracks. Major installations like Fort Campbell and Fort Stewart, Ga., report pumping more than \$100 million into barracks improvements in recent years to make room for the flood of recruits and brigades.

Army Secretary Pete Geren said Wednesday at Fort Bragg that the in emergency funds to fix problems found during inspections of 148,000 their health and safety."

rooms at bases worldwide over the past two weeks.

"We ordered a look at literally ev-Army has appropriated \$248 million ery single room," Geren said. "We didn't find any looming danger to

# 6 San Diego U. fraternities suspended

**SAN DIEGO** (AP)—San Diego State University has suspended six fraternities after a sweeping drug investigation that landed dozens of students in jail on suspicion of openly dealing drugs on campus.

The probe—prompted by the cocaine overdose death last year of a freshman sorority member—led to the arrests of 96 people, 75 of them San Diego State students. A second drug death occurred during the investigation.

Twenty-nine people were arrested early Tuesday in raids at nine locations including the Theta Chi fraternity, where agents found cocaine, Ecstasy and three guns, authorities said. Eighteen of those arrested were wanted on warrants for selling to undercover agents.

Theta Chi and five other fraternities have been suspended pending a hearing on evidence gathered during the investigation, dubbed Operation Sudden Fall.

All of the arrested students have been suspended and will be barred from attending classes or taking final exams until their cases are reviewed, San Diego State President Stephen Weber said in a statement. Those who live in university-owned housing were evicted, he added.

"If guilty, they have ruined an untold number of lives," Weber said. "We are determined to remove people from our community who have placed our students at risk."

Authorities said some fraternity members openly dealt drugs, and that one sent a mass text message advertising special prices on cocaine. Two kilograms of cocaine were seized in all, along with 350 Ecstasy pills, marijuana, psychedelic mushrooms, hash oil, methamphetamine, illicit prescription drugs, several guns and at least \$60,000 in cash, authorities said.

# Obama picks up four superdelegates



INGTON march toward

the Democratic presidential nomination picked up support from four more superdelegates Wednesday, pushing him ever closer to victory over Hillary Rodham Clinton—even as their primary marathon staggered on.

She added two superdelegates herself in what has become the last big contest as their race winds toward a finish.

There are just 217 delegates to be chosen in the final six primaries, and neither candidate can win enough of them to claim final victory. Meanwhile, 265 additional delegates—the party elders and other "superdelegates"—have yet to be claimed, and their support will be the deciding factor.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Her money (AP)—Ba- drained and her options dwindling, rack Obama's a resolute Hillary Rodham Clinton vowed Wednesday to press on with her presidential bid even as she and top advisers were



hard-pressed to describe a realistic path for her to wrest the nomination from Barack Obama.

After

Obama

wrenching primary outcome Tuesday in which she was routed in North Carolina and barely won Indiana, Clinton made a hastily scheduled trip to West Virginia to show her determination to fight on. The state holds a primary next Tuesday. She planned to return to the state

Thursday, then fly to South Dakota and Oregon, which also have upcoming contests.

Also Wednesday, aides disclosed that Clinton had lent her campaign \$6.4 million since mid-April, on top of a separate \$5 million loan in February. She contributed \$5 million on April 11, \$1 million on May 1 and \$425,000 on May 5.

Though Obama padded his delegate lead in Tuesday's primaries, most uncommitted superdelegates still want to remain on the sidelines. The Associated Press interviewed more than 70 undeclared superdelegates or their representatives Wednesday, and many said they don't want to get involved until the voting ends June 3.

However, the comments of some of the uncommitteds were anything but encouraging for Clinton.

# ACROSS THE NATION

### **Bailiffs kill man who fired shots** inside Florida courthouse

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Bailiffs shot and killed a man who opened fire in the lobby of a downtown courthouse Wednesday afternoon, sheriff's officials said. One of the two bailiffs who fired at the unidentified man suffered a non-life-threatening shoulder wound, Pinellas County Sheriff's Sgt. Jim Bordner said. At least four other people were in the lobby at the time but no one else was hurt, Bordner said. The gunman entered the courthouse shortly after 1 p.m. Wednesday and approached a security checkpoint wearing a backpack. A deputy ordered him to remove the backpack and place it on a conveyor belt, but the man instead threw it on the ground and opened fire with a semiautomatic handgun, Bordner said.

### Philly officers taken off street after videotaped beating

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—More than a dozen police officers will be taken off the street as authorities investigate a video showing three suspects being kicked, punched and beaten after they were pulled out of a car during a traffic stop, the mayor's office said. "At a glance it does appear to be a bit beyond the pale," said Doug Oliver, a spokesman for Mayor Michael Nutter. "Officers are not allowed to operate outside of the law." The police department believes about 15 officers were involved in Monday night's arrests in the city's Hunting Park section, where police had been investigating a triple shooting, Oliver said. Some have already been taken off the street, while others still need to be identified, he said. The three suspects were charged with criminal conspiracy, aggravated assault, simple assault and reckless endangerment, according to court officials.

### **Bush criticizes new Cuban leadership**

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush said Wednesday that Cuba's post-Fidel Castro leadership has made only "empty gestures at reform" and rejected calls for easing of U.S. restrictions on the communist island. "Until there is a change of heart and a change of compassion and a change of how the Cuban government treats its people, there's no change at all," Bush said at the State Department to the Council of Americas, a business group that advocates for democracy and open markets in the Western Hemisphere. "Cuba will not be a land of liberty so long as free expression is punished and free speech can take place only in hushed whispers and silent prayers. And Cuba will not become a place of prosperity just by easing restrictions on the sale of products that the average Cuban cannot afford."

### Officials now say sea lions weren't shot to death in Oregon

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The six sea lions found dead in traps near a Columbia River dam were apparently not shot to death after all, federal officials said Wednesday, leaving unanswered how the animals died or whether humans killed them. Federal fisheries spokesman Brian Gorman in Seattle said preliminary results of a necropsy found no evidence of recent gunshot wounds but found shallow puncture wounds in one of the protected animals consistent with sea lion bite marks. The fisheries department is still trying to determine how the animals died and how the doors to the traps in which they were found had been closed, he said.

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# Asia

# US envoy: Myanmar toll might reach 100,000

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)— Hungry people swarmed the few open shops and fistfights broke out over food and water in Myanmar's swamped Irrawaddy delta Wednesday as a top U.S. diplomat warned that the death toll from a devastating cyclone could top 100,000.

The minutes of a U.N. aid meeting obtained by The Associated Press, meanwhile, revealed the military junta's visa restrictions were hampering international relief efforts.

Only a handful of U.N. aid workers had been let into the impoverished Southeast Asian country, which the government has kept isolated for five decades to maintain its iron-fisted control. The U.S. and other countries rushed supplies to the region, but most of it was being held outside Myanmar while awaiting the junta's permission to deliver it.

Entire villages in the Irrawaddy delta were still submerged from Saturday's storm, and bloated corpses could be seen stuck in the mangroves. Some survivors stripped clothes off the dead. People wailed as they described the horror of the torrent swept ashore by the cyclone.

"I don't know what happened to my wife and young children," said Phan Maung, 55, who held onto a coconut tree until the wa-

family was gone.

ter level dropped. By then his

A spokesman for the U.N. Children's Fund said its staff in Myanmar reported seeing many people huddled in rude shelters and children who had

lost their parents.

"There's widespread devastation. Buildings and health centers are flattened and bloated dead animals are floating said Cyclone Nargis killed at around, which is an alarm for spreading disease. These are 42,119 missing.

Patrick McCormick said at UNICEF offices in New York.

Myanmar's state media least 22,980 people and left

# Journey from horror to misery in Myanmar

(AP)—Some survivors arrived half-naked, others wore clothes they scavenged from the dead.

Myanmar's rice-trading town of Labutta—the only spit of high ground in a vast watery landscape—has become a beacon of hope for tens of thousands who lived through the cyclone's fury, most losing homes and family members.

The survivors made the journey in rickety wooden boats with makeshift sails fashioned out of blankets, dodging the bloated corpses of buffaloes and dead neighbors floating in the murky waters.

It was a journey from horror to misery for most, who described desperate hours clinging to trees and debris, followed by days of waiting for The Associated Press by a Myanmar journalist.

The footage provided a first glimpse of Myanmar's worst-hit Irrawaddy delta, which has been cut off from the rest of the world since Cyclone Nargis struck Saturday, unleashing 12-foot-high storm surges that flooded the low-lying area of rice paddies and bamboo homes.

"I was hanging from an 18foot-tall coconut tree for a long time until the weather subsided. I don't know what happened to my wife and young children," said Phan Maung, 55, sobbing as he spoke.

Many survivors were shaking and had trouble telling their tales. Some were angry, others hysterical. Only a few

for aid to arrive, in video shot were willing to give their names, fearful of retribution by a government already embarrassed by its failure to bring prompt relief.

"I am the only survivor of a family of 11. The entire village was wiped out," said a man from the village of Yay Way.

Nearby, a woman in her 50s stared ahead in shock as she spoke. "The wind came first and the waves started to roll over us, so that we had to crawl over the thatch walls to get to the upper floor of the house. I saw people drowning and dead bodies floating," she said.

More than 60,000 people were killed or are missing in the densely-populated delta, which sits just above sea level, and as many as 100,000 are feared dead.



A Myanmar man sits under a fallen tree following the weekend's devastating cyclone, in Yangon, Myanmar.

# By ship and plane, Myanmar aid picks up pace

**GENEVA** (AP)—Ships and cargo planes carried relief supplies to Myanmar on Wednesday as aid groups distributed food and other supplies to people left homeless by a deadly cyclone.

Operations continued to be hampered by the Myanmar government's delay in issuing visas to aid workers. But U.N. and other agencies said they were making progress in persuading the government to let in more experts to help get aid to those who need it most.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged Myanmar's government to speed the arrival of aid workers and relief supplies "in every way possible" and welcomed initial approval for a team of experts from the world body.

John Holmes, the U.N. humanitarian chief, said four Asian members from the U.N's disaster coordination team have clearance to fly to Myanmar on Thursday. A fifth member is seeking a visa.

The U.N.'s World Food Program said four flights carrying food and other supplies would arrive in Yangon on Thursday morning—the first U.N. flights to reach the country since the storm hit Saturday.

Planeloads of supplies ar-

rived from Japan, Bangladesh, India, Laos, China, Thailand and Singapore, Myanmar state television said.

Mike Kiernan, spokesman for Save The Children, said local officials were responsive, especially in the hard-hit Irrawaddy delta region.

plies in Yangon, its outskirts and farther south along the coast but the group still lacks personnel and supplies to meet the need.

"It is essential that emergency visas are issued and that relief shipments are allowed to arrive," the group said, adding its teams have been waiting for 48 hours



A worker of the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) helps to load an Airbus 300 for Yangon, Myanmar in the airport of Brindisi, South Italy, Wednesday, May 7, 2008.

"We have reached 50,000 people in the first two days in the delta region, delivering 30 tons of materials," he said, adding that flooded roads, communications and electric outages are still a problem.

France's Medecins Sans Frontieres, or Doctors without Borders, said its workers have been giving out food and supfor permission to enter Myanmar. In a closed session, the U.N. Security Council discussed an informal proposal by France to authorize the U.N. to enter Myanmar and deliver aid without waiting for approval from the military. Diplomats said the U.S., Britain and five other members supported the idea, but eight nations opposed it.

# ASIAN BRIEFS

### 2 police killed in roadside blast in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A roadside bomb hit a police vehicle in eastern Afghanistan on Wednesday, killing two officers, while another blast in the same area killed a suspected wouldbe suicide bomber, officials said. The attack on the police car occurred just outside the capital of Khost province as the officers traveled from their homes to work, said Wazir Pacha, a spokesman for the provincial police chief. The powerful explosion destroyed the vehicle, Pacha said.

### Earthquake 100 miles away wakes up residents of Tokyo

**TOKYO** (AP)—A strong earthquake struck off the coast of Japan early Thursday, the national Meteorological Agency said, waking up people 100 miles away in Tokyo. Two people suffered minor injuries from falling furniture, public television broadcaster NHK reported. An 18-yearold man was hit when his stereo speakers fell onto his bed, and a 25-year-old man was hit by objects rattled off shelves. There were no other immediate reports of injuries or damage from the magnitude 6.8 earthquake, NHK said. No tsunami warning was issued. The earthquake occurred at 1:45 a.m. offshore at a depth of about 25 miles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The epicenter was about 100 miles northeast of Tokyo.

### **Former Bangladesh prime** minister is charged with corruption

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—A Bangladesh court charged former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with corruption Wednesday over contracts awarded to a Canadian oil and gas company in 2001, an investigator said. Eight other people, including Hasina's political colleagues, former bureaucrats and a local representative of Calgary-based Niko Resources Ltd., have also been charged with corruption, said A.M.M. Sabbir

Hasan, a deputy director of the official Anti-corruption Commission. Hasan said Dhaka's Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court accepted the conclusions the commission reached following an investigation and the case will now go to trial.

### Philippines allays fears of new fighting with Muslim rebels

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The impending withdrawal of Malaysian peacekeepers from the southern Philippines will not lead to renewed fighting between government troops and Muslim guerrillas as long as both sides respect a cease-fire, an official said Wednesday. An initial group of 29 Malaysian cease-fire monitors will leave the southern region of Mindanao on Saturday and the remaining 12 are scheduled to follow by the end of August. Pro-peace advocates have raised concerns that the withdrawal of the Malaysian monitors, who arrived in 2004, could spark new clashes, threaten the cease-fire and further undermine already-stalled talks between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, the country's largest Muslim rebel group.

### Olympic torch enjoying a smooth relay in China

HAIKOU, China (AP)—Paramilitary police donned Hawaiian shirts and pink buses shuttled in more cops in camouflage. Security was heavy but officers were markedly relaxed as jubilant crowds, apparently free of protesters, helped kick off the Olympic torch's tour of China. "Of course I'm happy, but I can't talk to you," one officer said with a smile as the torch was carried through the tropical port city of Haikou on Tuesday. Up to a million people squeezed along the route. "Go China!" they screamed as the flame bobbed by. Wednesday was apparently another trouble-free day before cheering crowds as the torch made a 10-hour tour through the southern city of Guangzhou, also known as Canton, in China's prosperous manufacturing center.

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# World

# Olympic torch is lit on top of Everest

pic flame reached the top of the world Thursday. Live television footage showed a Chinese mountaineering team holding up a specially designed torch along with Chinese and Olympic flags Thursday on the top of Mount Everest.

"One World, One Dream," team captain Nyima Cering yelled as the torch was lit on the final icy incline leading to the peak, repeating the slogan for the Beijing Olympics. "We have lit the torch on top of the world," another climber said.

The 19-member team, dressed in red parkas emblazoned with Olympic logos, broke camp before dawn and reached the top of the 29,035-foot mountain a little more than six hours later.

Organizers hope the dramatic image of the torch atop Everest will counter some of the damaging publicity from protests during the international leg of the torch relay.

Criticized from the outset because of China's often harsh rule over Tibet—where Everest is located—the relay drew more intense scrutiny after Tibetans across western China erupted in anti-government protests in

The Everest torch is separate from the main torch but organizers say the flames are from the



In this photo released by China's Xinhua news agency, Norbu Zhamdu, left, lights the Olympic torch of the first torchbearer Gegyi with a kindling at the top of the Mount Everest, reaching the 8,850-meter (29,035foot) peak of the world's tallest mountain Thursday, May 8, 2008.

pic flame left on its world tour. it was split, with one flame going to light the torch carried up Everest. The main torch could not be used on the mountain because of concerns weather problems could disrupt its schedule.

The Everest flame had been carried in a special metal canister during the ascent. As the team neared the top, they used same source. Before the Olym- a wand to pass the flame from

the canister to the torch, which had been designed to withstand the frigid, windy, oxygen-thin Himalayan air.

The climbers could be heard struggling for breath as five torchbearers each inched a few feet before passing on the flame to the next person. A colorful Tibetan prayer flag lined the path and fluttered in the wind.

The final torchbearer, a Ti-

betan woman named Cering Wangmo, stood silently on the peak with her torch while other team members unfurled flags Chinese and Olympic flags. They then clustered together, cheering "We made it," and "Beijing welcomes you."

One person was heard breathing heavily, murmuring "not enough oxygen."

The head of the Everest leg of

the relay, Li Zhixin, was overcome with emotion as the flame reached the top. "It was so difficult," he said at the CCTV studio set up at base camp, choking on tears.

The Everest leg has largely unfolded amid secrecy, in part to deter protesters who have criticized the event as symbolizing China's domination over Tibet.

The 19-member final assault team was comprised of both ethnic Han Chinese and Tibetan members and also included university students. The team captain, Nyima Cering, is a Tibetan, while deputy Luo Shen is Han Chinese, CCTV and the Xinhua News Agency said.

The main Olympic torch is on the opposite side of China. The relay leg scheduled for Thursday, in the boomtown of Shenzhen, was postponed until the afternoon to allow for the Everest ascent. The main flame will cross every region and province of China, returning to Beijing on Aug. 6, two days ahead of the opening ceremony for the games.

The torch seems to be having a smooth relay through China. After the tour kickoff Sunday, the flame has been greeted by jubilant crowds in such places as the port city of Haikou and the southern city of Guangzhou, also known as Canton.

# Humanitarian woes grow in Sadr City

**BAGHDAD** (AP)—Entire sections of Baghdad's embattled Sadr City district have been left nearly abandoned by civilians fleeing a U.S.-led showdown with Shiite militias and seeking aid after facing shortages of food and medicine, humanitarian groups said Wednesday.

The reports by the agencies, including the U.N. children's fund, add to the individual accounts by civilians pouring out of the Sadr City area as clashes intensify.

U.S. forces have increased air power and armored patrols in the attempt to cripple Shiite militia influence in Sadr City, a slum of 2.5 million people that serves as the Baghdad base for the Mahdi Army led by anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

The battles started in late March after the Iraqi government opened a crackdown on militias and armed gangs in the southern city of Basra, including some groups Washington says have links to Iran.

Claire Hajaj, a UNICEF spokeswoman based in Jordan, said up to 150,000 peopleincluding 75,000 childrenwere isolated in sections of Sadr City "cordoned off by military forces."

# Medvedev sworn in as Russia's president, but will he rule?

MOSCOW (AP)—With the swearing in of Dmitry Medvedev as Russia's president, the Kremlin leadership now mirrors one of its most potent symbols—the double-headed eagle.

Standing next to the new president during a ceremony Wednesday in a gilded Kremlin hall was his predecessor, Vladimir Putin, the man who nurtured Medvedev's rise to power and who will now be his prime minister.

The world waits to see whether the two can jointly rule this sprawling country, or whether, like the Byzantine crest, they will gaze in opposite directions.

Medvedev has promised to strengthen democratic freedoms and suggested he will move Russia in a more pro-Western direction, raising the hopes of those who want to see the country shift away from Putin's authoritarian rule.

But Putin spent his last weeks as president planning to strengthen the prime minister's role and assuming the chairmanship of the United Russia party, which dominates politics from the municipal level to the parliament.

Both Medvedev and Putin have dismissed concerns the dual leadership will lead to conflict and instability.

But Wednesday's ceremony in the glittering Andreyevsky Hall of the Kremlin Grand Palace, which overlooks the Moscow River, only emphasized the apparent contradictions between the 42-year-old president and his future prime minister.

While Medvedev spoke of economic and democratic development after taking the oath of office, Putin said in his own brief remarks that the Russian people "have many times defended their own path and their



President Dmitry Medvedev, right, is seen with his predecessor Vladimir Putin, left, during an inauguration ceremony at the Kremlin, Moscow, Wednesday, May 7, 2008.

sovereignty."

The language echoed Putin's past allegations that Western democracies are trying to impose their political system on Russia as part of a campaign of surrounding and weakening the country.

Under the Russian constitution, the presidency has sweeping powers. But the powers of the prime minister's office are elastic, and Putin appears poised to expand them.

The new premier is expected to have

increased authority over governors and regional leaders. According to Russian press reports, Putin will have 11 deputies compared to the five who served his predecessor, Viktor Zubkov.

In addition, many analysts expect Medvedev to defer to Putin, his longtime mentor, on important decisions—at least during Medvedev's first few months in office.

Putin has vowed to remain prime minister as long as he is needed. There is speculation he sees the job as a transitional post, with some expecting him to retire from politics but other predicting he will someday return to the presidency. Term limits required him to give up that post after two consecutive terms.

Several times, Putin loyalists pleaded with him to support a change in the constitution that would permit him to remain president. But he rejected those entreaties, saying he would respect the constitution he inherited.

"Eight years ago when I was sworn in as Russian president for the first time, I pledged to work openly and honestly, to loyally serve the people and the state," he said during the inauguration ceremony. "I did not break my pledge!"

Russia's major television networks broadcast live coverage of the transfer of power, which featured goose-stepping young guards resplendent in blue uniforms and high-peaked caps and a 30-gun salute by a battery near the high Kremlin walls.

Despite the martial overtones, the ceremony marked a rare constitutional succession in a country where changes in leadership have often resulted from illness, political unrest or violence.

# Nigeria lifts tax on rice in bid to head off food crisis

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Nigeria on Wednesday announced it was suspending import duties and other taxes on rice while launching a raft of other measures to head off a food crisis in Africa's most populous nation.

The government said that it will not collect taxes on imported rice until the end of October at the earliest in a bid to curb rising prices on the staple food for many of Nigeria's 140 million people. It also said it would seek to bolster domestic rice production while increasing its stock of emergency stores.

Soaring fuel prices, growing demand from the burgeoning middle classes in India and China and poor weather have contributed to the jump in food prices worldwide, economists say. Africa has been particularly hard hit.

The government said it believed it could avert a food crisis in the country where most people live below the poverty line and struggle to feed their families.

# Cuban blogger receives award—in absentia

MADRID. Spain (AP) -- A Cu-recording was "the clearest eviban woman who gained worldwide acclaim for a blog that offers stinging criticism of the Communist regime was honored Wednesday with a Spanish journalism award - in absentia.

Cuban authorities did not approve Yoani Sanchez's request to travel to Madrid for the award ceremony. But the 32-year-old woman was still able to make some points.

"Nothing of what I have written in these 13 months speaks as loudly as my absence from this ceremony," Sanchez said in a tape recording.

She said the fact she had to address the group through a that the prize gives me."

dence of the defenselessness of the Cuban people with respect to the state.'

Sanchez was given the Ortega y Gasset Prize in digital journalism for creating a now year-old blog called "Generation Y," which gets more than 1 million hits a month, mostly from abroad. Cuban essayist Ernesto Hernandez Busto accepted on her behalf.

She said the international recognition would not give her "immunity, because in Cuban society one is never immune from the State. But it does allow me to carry on more strongly with this small protective shield

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# Off The Wall

# Students: Police chief who shot self careless

The police chief who shot himself in the ankle was waving a loaded pistol and being careless, according to two students who were attending his class to qualify for a concealed-weapons permit. "We were told the gun

is the chief's personal sidearm, but it looked to me like he didn't know anything about the gun," Lewis Walker said.

seeking certification to carry a concealed weapon, said he was surprised Chief Dave Hansen was using a loaded gun to show how it worked.

"Right then, I was very leery, because there's no need to have Bart Ulm, another student live ammo in a gun in the class. But I figured he's the chief, so he must know what he's doing," Ulm told the Standard-Examin-

Hansen held the Glock 40 under a table to disassemble it when a bullet fired, Walker said.

The chief cried, "I'm hit," and fell over. Students who were screaming "Officer down!" were urged to call 911.

The gun went off in a conference room Saturday at Riverdale police headquarters.

Hansen was taken to McKay-Dee Hospital in Ogden for surgery and released Monday, Lt. James Ebert said.

Ebert said the findings of an in-

ternal investigation would be announced Wednesday. He declined to offer specifics but disputed the accounts of Ulm and Walker, describing the pair as "disgruntled."

Other students "did not share that feeling" about the chief, Ebert told The Associated Press.

# **OFFBEAT BRIEFS**

#### III. man seeks to reclaim continuous exercise record

NAPERVILLE, III. (AP)—Until last summer, 50-year-old George Hood of Aurora held the world record for continuous exercise by a human being—111 hours, 11 minutes and 11 seconds on a stationary bicycle. Then his record was broken by another cyclist from Tasmania. Now Hood wants to be the record-holder again by cycling on a spin bike for more than 132 hours straight, and raising \$50,000 for the YMCA's Spin for Kids event. The retired Drug Enforcement Agency investigator began his attempt Sunday night at the Fry Family YMCA in Naperville. He is projected to finish on the morning of May 11.

### Chocolate breath odor helps officer nab shoplifting suspect

**BREMERTON.** Wash. (AP)—It was the odor of chocolate on the suspect's breath that gave away a 15-year-old boy accused of shoplifting candy bars in Bremerton. An officer responding to the shoplifting report Friday night caught up with the suspect on a bicycle. First he denied taking candy bars, but the officer could smell an odor of chocolate and called witnesses who identified the boy. He confessed and said he was hungry and did it for the thrill.

### Gas price protest singer arrested at Ind. convenience store

VALPARAISO, Ind. (AP)—A man with a guitar and a megaphone climbed atop a convenience store roof to serenade commuters with his musical protest of high gasoline prices—until police halted the impromptu concert. Once atop the roof of the Family Express store Monday, and above pumps dispensing fuel at \$3.78 per gallon, Jay Weinberg, 29, performed his ditty called "Price Gouge'n." Dozens of supporters chanted: "I can't afford it. I'm banging on my dashboard. I can't believe they think I'm a fool." The performance lasted about 15 minutes before three police officers arrived and arrested Weinberg on charges of trespassing and disorderly conduct. Police said he was cooperative. The crowd, made up of Weinberg's friends and other people who just happened to be pumping gas, continued singing. Then some, including his wife, Danielle, drove to Porter County Jail to bail him out. Weinberg left the building around 7:30 p.m. and was greeted with cheers.

### Cops trap man in lie when he identifies himself as felon

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. (AP)—A male who lied to Sheboygan police to hide his unpaid traffic citations almost got himself into far more serious trouble. Police said they stopped a vehicle Saturday for improper registration. One passenger identified himself to police, who ran a check on that name. It turned out to be the name of someone who has an active felony warrant for vehicular homicide. When the passenger found out, he quickly gave police his real name. He said he lied earlier because he has outstanding traffic fines in another state and wasn't sure whether there was a warrant out for him. The male was arrested on an obstruction charge. Before he was released, police verified through photos and fingerprints that he wasn't the vehicular-homicide suspect.



# **COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (1-670) 664-3500/1 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

### FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT **GENERATOR AND POWER UPGRADE DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES CPA-SA-001-08**

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Design and Construction of the Saipan International Airport Generator and Power Upgrade on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It is the intent of CPA to expedite complete construction of this project

The scope of work and proposal package will be available on Monday, May 12, 2008 at the Office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, upon the payment of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) for each. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, casher's check or U.S. postal money order made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

No Pre-Proposal Conference will be held for this project. All questions must be submitted in writing to Mr. Lee C. Cabrera, CPA's Acting Executive Director or faxed to (670) 234-5962, no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday,

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan

International Airport Generator and Power Upgrade, Design/Build Services, CPA-SA-001-08." One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008, to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The offerer shall submit with their proposal a letter of interest and Project Approach which details how the work will be accomplished by the proposer's team, given the time requirement and resources available as identified in their proposal.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

| 1. | Total cost for design and construction                | 30% |
|----|---|-----|
| 2. | Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff | 20% |
| 3. | Experience of the firm on similar type projects       | 20% |
| 4. | Time frame for completion of the work                 | 20% |
| 5  | Project Approach                                      | 10% |

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals. Award of a contract is contingent upon prior approval from FAA.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by either a proposal bond by an U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax. Proposers should also include in pricing performance and payment bonds that will be required for this project.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of CPA

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

LEE C. CABRERA Acting Executive Director

Date: May 8, 2008



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands **State Board of Education** 

# Public School System

P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



# **Request for Proposal RFP 08-016**

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for Janitorial Services for the PSS Head Start Program. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 08-016" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than June 6, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 08-016, CONFIDENTIAL -Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and one (1) copy). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Carl Dela Cruz, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: delacruzc@pss.cnmi.mp.

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Dr. David M. Borja, D.B.A. Commissioner of Education

/S/ Carl F. Dela Cruz Acting P & S Officer

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 **31** 

# Science & Technology

# Don't wait while your computer wheezes

f you have an old laptop that starts making ominous, clicking noises, don't wait for it to get better. It won't. And don't put off making backup copies of your important files, even if your computer isn't complaining.

My cousin in Florida learned these lessons the hard way last week. And if I had done the smart thing and insisted she fix or replace her old machine the day she first mentioned the problem, I could have spent my last afternoon of vacation sitting on the beach instead of replacing a crashed computer—a pastime that long ago lost its charm.

First, a word about failing computers. Almost every computer will expire some day. I have a colleague who flogged an XT clone from the mid-1980s right up to the millennium, and retired it only when he realized it couldn't do the World Wide Web—but that's the exception.

Sometimes failures happen without warning. Over the years I've had a few motherboards (the computer's main circuit board) snuff themselves without so much as a bleep. But with older machines, the most common cause of failure is the hard drive—which not only stores all your precious data, but also has to be working in order to load the operating system when you turn the computer on.

If you have a machine that's 4 years old or more and you get strange error messages when you start the machine—or like my cousin, you hear the hard drive clicking repeatedly before the computer loads the operating system—it's time for a new drive, or if your PC is old enough, a new computer.

Should you be lucky enough to get a balky computer running, don't shut it off till you've backed up your important data. You can always reinstall software, but if you lose important documents, financial records, music, photos—or in my cousin's case, a massive recipe file—you could be facing disaster.

There are a variety of ways to back up your hard drive, but the easiest by far is to buy an external hard drive that plugs into a USB or firewire port. Starting at \$100 or so for 150 gigabytes of storage or more, these devices are about the size of a paperback book and represent an incredible bargain.

If you really want to be secure, buy two portable units and keep one backup in a safe-deposit box, or just store it in a safe place somewhere away from your main PC so it won't get stolen, flooded out or burned up in a disaster.

Many external drives come with "one-touch" backup software that will clone your hard disk on the backup drive and then make incremental copies of files that have changed. But that may be more work than most people want to do.

# HELP FILE

**By ROB PEGORARO** (c) 2008, The Washington Post



Q: Should I do anything extra to back up the songs I bought from MSN Music? Microsoft's e-mail last week said my purchases would still work.

**A:** Microsoft's MSN Music store has been dying a slow death since the arrival of the company's Zune player in 2006. Last week, it officially moved to pull the plug by announcing an Aug. 31 shutdown of the store's "digital rights management" (DRM) system.

After then, MSN Music downloads will work only on computers already authorized to play them. To fix that, you need to extract your purchase from Microsoft's DRM: Burn those downloads to audio CDs, pop the freshly burned discs back into the computer, and recopy the songs to the machine in an unlocked format, such as MP3. You will lose a little audio quality, but that can't be helped.

Microsoft didn't spell this out in its confusing e-mail sent to MSN Music customers. This message said the company wanted to ensure a "seamless experience with the music you've downloaded" — but if you try to play those files on a new PC after Aug. 31, you will experience not a seam so much as an abyss.

The e-mail did not detail the burn-and-re-copy routine noted above, giving only a vague reminder to "back up and secure your music by burning your purchased songs and playlists to CD."

Relatively few people shopped at MSN Music (though after giving the store a fairly positive review in 2004, I'm obliged to issue this warning). But the lesson applies to anyone buying "DRMed" music: These locks can get welded shut.

You're best off not buying music with DRM at all. Many online stores, such as iTunes and Zune Marketplace, now offer much of their catalogues without these restrictions, and Amazon's MP3 store (amazon.com/mp3) doesn't carry any songs with DRM.

I use a free Microsoft utility called SyncToy—which was designed to synchronize the contents of any two folders, on the same drive or different drives.

I keep everything I care about in Windows' master My Documents folder. Once a week or so, I tell SyncToy to synchronize that folder with a backup folder on two external drives. One is attached to my PC and the other to my wife's machine on our home network. The whole process takes only takes a few minutes.

You can find this handy utility by visiting www.microsoft.com/downloads/ and searching for SyncToy. The latest versions work on Vista as well as earlier Windows releases.

Another backup possibility, if you don't have a lot of bulky photos, music or video files, is to use a thumb-sized flash memory drive. Four-gigabyte models that plug into a USB port are available for less than \$30, and higher-capacity drives are becoming cheaper all the time. Buy a couple and rotate your backups—because no medium lasts forever.

With less than 300 days till broadcast TV stations switch from

### By MIKE HIMOWITZ

(c) 2008, The Baltimore Sun

E-mail Himowitz at mike.himowitz@balt-sun.com.



analog to digital transmissions, I'm hearing complaints from readers who registered for coupons to buy converter boxes for their sets but haven't received them. Some have been waiting two months.

No surprise there. According to the government's TV Converter Box Web site, the agency handling the coupons was swamped when the program began early this year. This week, the government is mailing coupons ordered late in February.

If you order coupons now, you can expect to wait four to six weeks, according to the latest schedule. The coupons are valid for 90 days after they're mailed. If you've registered and you're still waiting, check the status of your coupon order at www.dtv2009. gov/CheckStatus.aspx.



Lovingly known as Marcy or Te' Born: October 01, 1945 Was born to eternal life on Friday, May 02, 2008

She now joins her:

Husband: † Vicente Tudela Camacho "Ben Dinga"

Parents: † Julian (Felipe) Norita & † Consolacion Lieto Norita

Brother: † Joseph Lieto Norita

In Laws: † Carlos Evangelista, † Santiago T. & † Josepha M.

Camacho, † Froilan T. Camacho

Marcy will now forever live in the hearts and memories of her:

### Mother

• Julia K. Norita

### Children

• Joseph A. & Doreen M. Tudela (Joseph Lance, Desiree Briana)

• Claudio "Clyde" K. & Jenny C. Norita (Cody Julian & Tracy, Vicky Jean, Maegan Julia, Ashley Ann, Chase Joshua)

• Joseph James N. Camacho & Viola Alepuyo (Ulen Joseph Vicente)

• Kenneth N. & Tina A. Camacho (Marlee Nicole & Ruben (Kashius),

Felisha Marie, Courtney Margaret, Vincent Ken, Kenneth II "KC")

• Isidoru N. & Melissa M. Camacho

• George N. Camacho & Susana Quitano (Kuino Benbar, Heath Quinten)

• Lareyna "Loling" N. Camacho & Clifford Q. Nekai

• Vincent N. Camacho Jr.

Brother: The family of the late Joseph L. Norita Jesus "Larry" L. & Rose Q. Norita & Family Sister: Ramona N. Evangelista & Family Sis: Remy N. Repeki & Family, Esperanza R. Taitano & Family Caretaker: Joy L. Amarante

Carctaker. Joy L. Immaranto

### In-Laws

The family of the late Santiago T. & † Josepha M. Camacho & Family David T. & Rosa A. Camacho & Family Andres T. & Aida Camacho & Family Andrea T. Cabrera & Family The family of the late Froilan T. Camacho Anunciacion "Asako" & † Miguel Magofna & Family

She is additionally survived by numerous family and friends.

Daily Mass is being offered at 6:00 am, at Kristo Rai Church (Garapan).

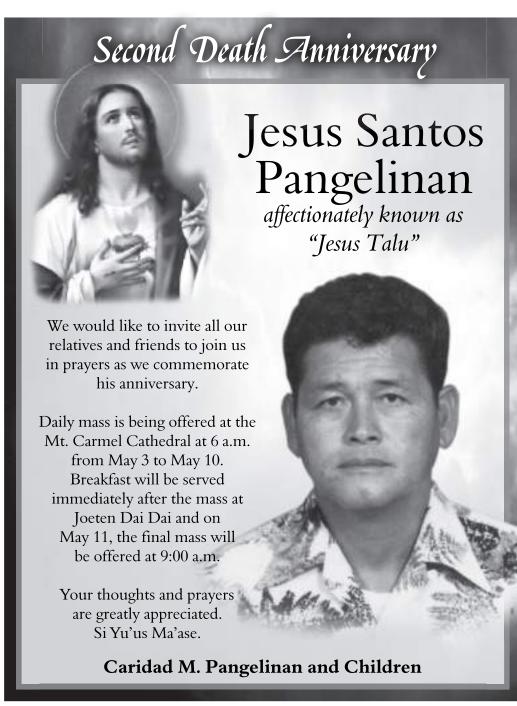
Nightly Rosary is being said at 7:30 pm, at Santa Remedios Church (Tanapag).

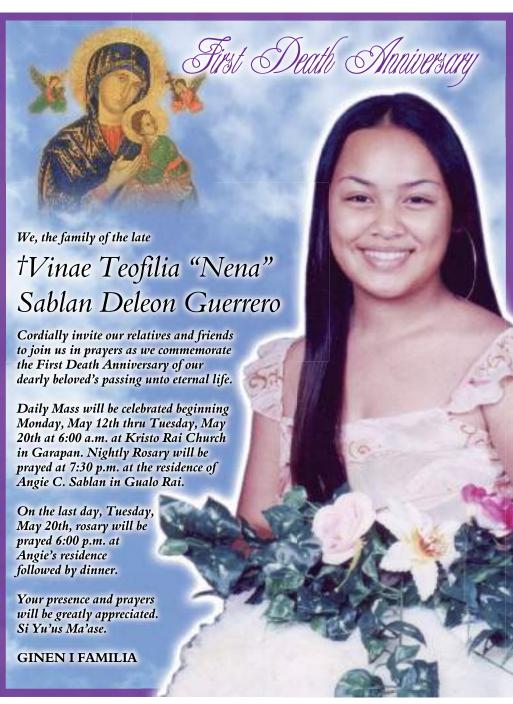
Last respects will be paid on Saturday, May 10, 2008. Our beloved Marcy will be escorted from the Cabrera Center at 7 a.m. to Santa Remedios Church in Tanapag followed by Responso and Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase for your Prayers and Thoughts from the Family.



**32** FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE





# Life & Style

# **Keynotes students showcase** talents in Spring 2008 recital

The Keynotes School of Music held its Spring 2008 Recital on May 4, 2008, at the Club V of the Saipan Grand Hotel. More than 60 students showcased their musical talents at the annual recital. Here are some pictures from the event:

Rosalia Francine Pangelinan plays her piece "Banana Split/School Bell Is Ringing". Rosalia is one of the newer Keynotes students who made it this year's recital.





Lady Dominique Canape and Talia Anne Trianni sing "Part of Your World" at the Keynotes School of Music Spring 2008 Recital, May 4, 2008 at the Club V, Saipan Grand Hotel.

Multi-talented Evzen
Pabellon presents
his piano-playing
skills when he played
"Pirates of the North
Sea" and "Hedwig's
Theme" from the
Harry Potter movies.







CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Miguel Andrei Aninon ehtralls the crowd with his vocal performance of "Remember Me This Way," theme song of the movie "Casper". Miguel also played the piano during the recital.

# PIC to fete moms this Mother's Day

By MARK RABAGO

mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com ASSISTANT EDITOR

This coming Sunday is Mother's Day and the Pacific Islands Club is not letting this event pass by without honoring the most important member of the family.

The San Antonio landmark's Director of Food & Beverage, Steve Balakrishna, said that PIC will have a Special Mother's Day Sunday Brunch at The Magellan and a sumptuous five-course dinner at the Seaside Grill to commemorate the occasion.

From 11am to 2pm this May 11, the Special Mother's Day Sunday Brunch at The Magellan will treat Mom, Dad, and their kids to a mouth-watering array of appetizers, entrees, and desserts expertly prepared by the hotel's F&B staff led by its new Executive Chef Darren Ferrall.

For starters, Executive Chef Ferrall and his trusted deputy, Sous Chef Ceferino N. Cancaida, have prepared a salad and appetizer lineup bannered by Garden Mesclun Greens with a Wide Variety of Condiments & Dressings and Smoked Duck Breast-Ginger Orange Sauce & Smoked Ham Leg with Cranberry Sauce.

The entrees are no less stellar, what with Executive Chef Ferrall's and Sous Chef Cancaida's Darn of Salmon with Spinach & Goat Cheese and Grilled Mahi mahi Fillet Murrat leading the way.

The two meals will be complemented by Jamaican Jerk Chicken with Fried Banana & Sweet Potato, "Kalbi-Qui" Beef Short Ribs, Coconut Crusted Tilapia with Apricot Dipping Sauce, and Andouille & Kielbasa Sausages with Ratatouille—all guaranteed to tickle the taste buds of guests.

And for the celebrants, Execu-



Mothers will be entitled to a raffle ticket for a chance to win a 20-inch colored TV, and overnight stay at PIC, and more in-kind prizes from the Pacific Islands Club this Sunday.

Cancaida have prepared Just Like "Mom's" Pot Roast with Roasted Root of Vegetables—a sure-fire hit specially made for Mother's Day.

For dessert, Pastry Chef Cary Alamudin's Sanz Rival, Brazo de Mercedes, Creme Brulee, Mango Cake, Carrot Cake, and Apple Pie will be the rave of sweet-tooths and, as an extra, PIC will also have a Made-to-Order Banana and Mango Crepes Station.

Executive Chef Ferrall and

are not done and the two said the Special Mother's Day Sunday Brunch would not be complete without PIC's all-time favorite Action Station serving as the centerpiece of the entire dining experience.

The two said the Action Station's lineup includes Raspberry & Strawberry Belgian Waffles, Farm Fresh Omelets Made to Order, Mini Wok Station—Beef, Shrimp, & Squid, Island-Style Whole Roast Suckling Pig, tive Chef Ferrall and Sous Chef Sous Chef Cancaida, however, Carved Steamship Round of

# Texas town is making Bush wedding plans preparing for an influx of tour-

CRAWFORD, Texas (AP)— So you didn't get your invitation to Jenna Bush's wedding this weekend? No worries.

You can still celebrate the big day with cake and punch at a souvenir shop. You might even pick up a coffee mug or a mouse pad featuring a photo of the happy couple. Or get your picture made in front of the 18-foot angel statue that

tion—which will be wearing a veil and holding a bouquet come Saturday.

The wedding of one of President Bush's twin daughters at his 1,600-acre Central Texas ranch is the social event of the year—maybe the century—in this one-stoplight town. Never mind that few, if any, of its 700 residents are on the guest list. Crawford is still plenty excited.

Residents and businesses are sidered royalty by many folks.

ists Saturday. Like the Bush family, they have arranged for flowers and ordered wedding cake and souvenirs.

"Remember when Princess Di married? Well, it was a big, big thing, you know. ... It's 'Wowthis is royalty," said Bill Johnson, owner of the Yellow Rose gift shop. "The president and the family—they are really con-

# Journalist dishes details about Uma's stalker trial

found guilty

Tuesday on

one count of

stalking and

one count of

aggravated

harassment,

NEW YORK (AP)—A Wall Street Journal reporter is sharing details about her experience as a juror in the Uma Thurman stalking trial, including some jurors' suspicions about whether her testimony was genuine.

In a story published on the front page of Wednesday's paper, Emily Steel discusses how she and 11 other jurors arrived at the decision to convict former mental patient Jack Jordan of stalking and harassing Thurman. The 37-year-old out-of-work lifeguard and pool cleaner was



and faces up to a year in jail. "Our debate centered on a surprisingly complex question: Where is the line between obses-

sion and menace?" she writes. In November 2005, Jordan showed up on the Manhattan set of Thurman's movie "My Super

Ex-Girlfriend" with a package that included a card with a picture of a child praying, a letter that said "my hands should be on your body at all times," a photo of a headless bride and Jordan's expired California driver's license, Steel says.

"The package generated one of the aggravated-harassment charges," Steel says. "That has a different legal standard than stalking. The judge told us we had to decide whether the package was intended to harass, annoy, threaten or alarm her."

Beef, Teppanyaki—Sirloin Steak, Chicken Breast Shrimp, Scallop & Vegetables, Pasta Corner with Choice of Condiments & Sauces, and Classic Caesar Salad Station with Herbed Garlic Toast.

The Special Mother's Day Sunday Brunch costs an affordable \$25 (\$12.50 for children 4 to 11 years old).

Those who want to avail of PIC's waterpark together with the Sunday Brunch only need to pony up \$30 (\$25 for children 4 to 11 years old) to avail of both, according to Balakrishna.

Mothers are also entitled to a raffle ticket for a chance to win a 20-inch colored TV, and overnight stay at PIC, and more inkind prizes from the hotel.

PIC's Mother's Day offering at Seaside Grill, meanwhile, is also quite compelling to the palate, according to Balaksrishna.

He said Executive Chef Ferrall and Sous Chef Cancaida have certainly outdone themselves with their five-course Mother's Day Dinner Menu that features Sesame Crusted Yellow Fin & Seared Scallop, Roasted Cream of Pumpkin Pie Nuts, Champagne Lime Sherbet, Mignonettes of Beef and Pan Fried Prawn, and Darned Salmon with Goat Cheese. For dessert, Frozen Banana Glace with Cashew Nougat will be served.

The Mother's Day Dinner Menu costs just \$40 and will be from 6pm to 9:30pm. It also includes a bottle of wine per couple.

Balakrishna is inviting PIC's loyal patrons as well as newcomers to the San Antonio landmark this Sunday, May 11, 2008, for its Mother's Day offerings.

Aside from the mouth-watering dishes, excellent service, and incomparable ambiance, PIC will continue to offer a 20 percent discount to local guests with valid ID.

Dining reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 234-7976 extension 5126, 5172, or 5170.

The Mother's Day holiday, in the United States, celebrates motherhood generally and the positive contributions of mothers to society. It falls on the second Sunday of each May.

It is the result of a campaign by Anna Marie Jarvis (1864-1948), who, following the death of her mother on May 9, 1905, devoted her life to establishing Mother's Day as a national, and later an international holiday.

# Death & Funeral Announcement

# †Glenn Anthony Reyes Mercado

"Antonio Tamat/Tång" July 11, 1961 - May 2, 2008

of Chalan Piao/Kagman, Saipan was called to Eternal Life in Guam by our Heavenly Father at the age of 46.

In his new life, Glenn now joins his:

### **Maternal Grandparents:**

Antonio Diaz Reyes & Celia Mendiola Cabrera Reyes/Carmen Camacho Sablan Reyes

# Paternal Grandparents:

Gregorio & Marie Bual Mercado

Reared Grandparents: Manuel S. Sablan & Ramona Mendiola Cabrera Sablan Vincent P. Sablan & Josepha Reyes Sablan

His memories will live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Catherine Irma Scallamera

Children: Lindsey Jensen, Jovina Marie Mercado and Raymond Anthony Mercado

Parents: Domingo Bual Mercado & Bernadita Cabrera Reyes Mercado

Parents-in-law: Joseph & Celine Scallamera

Godparents: Carlos C. Blanco & Jovita B. Tomokane

### Sisters/Brothers & Spouses:

Jaime E. & Delia Ebuen Mercado (Mark) Jose & Rebecca Mercado (Kurt, Kylene, & Karl) Pete & Bertha Castro (Peggy & Champ) Mona Celia Reyes Mercado

# Special mention of Tahitian relatives:

Miss Annie K

Tumoana Julien & Tepura Tuibo Jean & Louisa Young Pin (Tevaitao) Special mention of beloved pets:

Momo and Baby Mimi BudBud, Goldie, and Vahine

Mass of Intention is celebrated nightly at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Holy Rosary immediately afterwards at the San Antonio Church. His remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home on Saturday, May 10th, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. to Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. and burial will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Please Join Us In Prayers.

The Mercados yan I Familia

# The two sides of Harvey Two-Face



Actor Aaron Eckhart, 40, plays Harvey Dent in the "The Dark Knight."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

**By GEOFF BOUCHER** 

HOLLYWOOD—The trailers for "The Dark Knight" have shown quite a bit of Heath Ledger's scabbier, surlier reinvention of the Joker (think of Malcolm McDowell's thug from "A Clockwork Orange" but with kelp-colored hair, scars and a hyena laugh), but the producers have been keeping the film's other Batman bad guy, Two-Face, under wraps.

"That's right, people don't really know yet," actor Aaron Eckhart said with grin. "I can tell you that, basically, when you look at Two-Face, you should get sick to your stomach. Being the guy under all that, well, that was a lot of fun for me. It's like you would feel if you met someone whose face had pretty much been ripped off or burned off with acid. I can't talk about it beyond that because I don't want to give away too much of the plans by Chris.'

Chris is Christopher Nolan, the director of "Batman Begins," the acclaimed 2005 franchise reboot, and of "The Dark

Knight," the sequel that hits theaters July 18 with a tale that looks far darker and more psychological than the other, sunnier superhero fare this summer. The darkness goes beyond the screen as well; 28-year-old Ledger died in January in New York after an accidental overdose of sleeping pills.

The death of Ledger and the word of his incendiary performance in this film have made him the natural focus of early media coverage of "The Dark Knight." But Nolan told the Los Angeles Times this year that the foundation of the film is the tale and transformation of Eckhart's character, Harvey Dent, from a crusading Gotham City prosecutor to Harvey Two-Face, a maniac whose face is ravaged on one side by a horrible injury.

On the campy 1960s "Batman" television series, the writers imported pretty much every major villain from the namesake comic book -- the Joker, the Riddler, the Penguin and Catwoman, etc. -- but not Two-Face. He was simply too gross. In the comic books, the wounds come from a splash of

acid thrown at the attorney by a gangster on the witness stand, but there are hints that in this film it might be the Joker who is responsible for the scars.

Eckhart won't discuss that, but he did say that the wounds are deeper than in the comics: "There are fans on the Internet who have done artist's versions of what they think it will look like, and I can tell you this: They're thinking small; Chris is going way farther than people think."

There were plenty of name actors lined up hoping to get the role of Two-Face, but in the end Nolan went with Eckhart because of his "complexity and this aura he has of a good man pushed too far," Nolan said. Two-Face in the film is more of a vigilante hunting down the Joker than he is a criminal, as he has most often been portrayed in the comics. His trademark is flipping a two-headed coin, one side defaced, the other pristine, and letting its landing determine his actions, often in situations where he has a gun to someone's head.

"The difference between Batman and Two-Face is how far they are willing to go and how they make their point," Eckhart said. "Otherwise, we're talking about vigilante crime-fighting. That's what Batman is all about. He has a strong sense of justice. And Harvey Dent has an extremely strong sense of justice. His fiancee is killed. He's horribly injured. But he is still true to himself. He's a crime fighter, he's not killing good people. He's not a bad guy, not purely."

The 40-year-old, squarejawed Eckhart has a history of playing authority figures pulled away from the bright path. He was a cop on a path to destruction in "The Black Dahlia," the slick tobacco lobbyist in "Thank You for Smoking," the junior executive looking to punish women in Neil LaBute's "In the Company of Men," all of them roles in which bad deeds are simple to see but bad men are hard to recognize.

"You look at a good guy too long and it's not that exciting, it's the Boy Scout always doing the right thing," Eckhart said. "I'm interested in good guys gone wrong. They're not the bad guy, they're the good guy doing bad things."

He joins a franchise with a deep roster of serious actors onboard: "The Dark Knight" has career-surging Christian Bale back in the cape and Gary Oldman as Gotham's only honest cop, Jim Gordon, as well as Oscar winners Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman. Maggie Gyllenhaal steps in for Katie Holmes as prosecutor Rachel Dawes, the romantic interest of Bruce Wayne.

"My guy identifies with everybody in the movie," Eckhart said. "Really, all of it is more than an adventure tale, it's somewhat of a mirror of our times. It deals with some fundamental questions of what's going on in society. To me, this film is about how Batman feels about justice, how he takes care of the city, how he feels about the Joker when he meets him and sees what he is capable of doing. How he feels when Harvey Two-Face takes matters into his own hands. It's not simple, and it gets ugly. I think people will be surprised."

compared with the prior week, and more than 2.3 million people played it on its Xbox Live online service.

out of every 10 Xbox 360 consoles sold also included the sale of a copy of 'Grand Theft Auto IV," said Aaron Greenberg, director of product management at Xbox 360 and Xbox Live.



# Dina Lohan's 'Top Mom' honor is bad press to mommy group

founder of an organization that honored Dina Lohan as a "Top Mom" says things "spun out of control" when the media focused all its attention on the tabloid magnet.

Mingling Moms, a networking group for Long Island mothers, celebrated Lindsay Lohan's mom and others with famous children Tuesday night at its "Girls' Night Out" party at Carlyle on the Green in Farmingdale, N.Y.

"It just spun out of control," Mingling Moms president Erica Logiudice told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "The press is welcome to be there—I mean, we want it to be out there. But what they did was they kept badgering me, 'Why Dina Lohan? Why Dina Lohan?"

Logiudice said Lohan made the cut in an online survey asking voters to select Long Island's

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The top 20 moms of celebrities. The moms of Alec Baldwin, Natalie Portman and Mariah Carey were also nominated.

Lohan was swarmed by reporters at Tuesday's event. The celebrity Web site TMZ posted video of Lohan with the headline "Dina Lohan Massacres Mother's Day." When asked what advice she's given her actress-daughter Lindsay, Lohan responded: "Just to stay yourself and just to be honest. ... And if you do something, we're all imperfect, and if you make a mistake, you'll make up for it."

Lohan's mothering skills have been criticized by everyone from Rosie O'Donnell to celeb blogger Perez Hilton. The Merrick, N.Y., resident has been blamed for her daughter Lindsay's public missteps, which included a stint in a Utah rehab after two arrests last summer on drunken driving and cocaine charges.

# R. Kelly porn trial to begin in Chicago

CHICAGO (AP)—It seemed for a while as if R. Kelly's day in court might never come.

But after six years of repeated delays, jury selection is set to begin Friday in the Grammywinning R&B singer's trial on child pornography charges, prompted by a videotape allegedly showing Kelly having sex with a girl as young as 13.

Prosecutors, though, will have a unique challenge: The alleged victim, now 23, says it wasn't her. And Kelly's attornevs-including Ed Genson, who often represents the rich and famous—haven't admitted it's Kelly in the video.

"How is there not reasonable doubt when the two people say it's not them?" said Michael Helfand, a Chicago attorney not involved in the case.

But Helfand conceded that it's unclear what supporting evidence the prosecution might

The 41-year-old Kelly, whose first name is Robert, faces up to 15 years in prison if convicted. But Kelly-one of urban music's biggest stars, and a consistent hitmaker despite his legal woes—is glad the wait is over, his spokesman said.



An April 1, 2008, file photo shows R&B singer R. Kelly arriving at the Cook County Criminal Courthouse in Chicago for a status hearing in his upcoming trial.

always had this hanging over his head," spokesman Allan Mayer said. "He's confident that when all the evidence comes out he'll be shown not to be guilty of any crime."

The centerpiece of the trial is likely to be the video footage, which Judge Vincent Gaughan ruled may be shown in open court.

Prosecutors claim the videotape was made sometime between Jan. 1, 1998 and Nov. 1 2000, and that the girl was born in September 1984.

# 'Grand Theft Auto IV' tops \$500M in week 1 sales

**NEW YORK** (AP)—"Grand Theft Auto IV" raked in more than \$500 million in its first week in stores, selling more than 6 million units worldwide, the video game's publisher said Wednesday.

The highly anticipated title from Take-Two Interactive Software Inc. has received stellar ratings along with criticism

for its violent content. The game follows Eastern European immigrant-turned gangster Niko Bellic on crime missions around a fictional Liberty City.

The title sold about 3.6 million units on April 29, its opening day, bringing in roughly \$310 million. This is \$10 million more than what Microsoft Corp.'s "Halo 3," another blockbuster game, took in during its first week last fall.

The game has lifted sales of Microsoft's Xbox 360 and Sony Corp.'s PlayStation 3, the two consoles for which it is available.

Without giving numbers, Microsoft said Xbox 360 sales jumped 54 percent in the week following the title's launch, "Retailers say roughly four

"Every waking moment, he's

# Amy Winehouse arrested for drugs possession



LONDON (AP)—Amy Winehouse was arrested Wednesday in connection with a January video that allegedly shows her doing drugs at a party at her north London home.

London's Metropolitan Police said a 24-year-old woman was arrested on suspicion of drugs possession. Winehouse's spokesman, Chris Goodman, confirmed his client was in po-

"Amy Winehouse voluntarily attended a London police station today by appointment. She was arrested in order to be interviewed and is cooperating fully with inquiries," Goodman said in a statement.

"The interview relates to a

video handed to police earlier this year," he said.

Britain's The Suntabloid in January published still images from a video that it claimed showed Winehouse inhaling fumes from a small pipe. The images were said to have been filmed during a party at her home.

Winehouse, who is famous for her hit "Rehab," has had a turbulent private life. Last month she was cautioned by police for assault after she slapped a man during a night out. That means no charges were filed, but the incident was placed on her record.

Shortly after The Sun published still photographs of the video, Winehouse entered a London rehabilitation center.

In this Feb. 20, 2008, file photo, Amy Winehouse performs at the Brit Awards 2008 in London.

# Gold digger's greed is obvious to all but her wealthy fiance

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: A man I know is engaged to a woman 20 years younger. I think she's a gold digger, and here's why: She waved his credit card around after he gave it to her saying, "Look what I've got!" (He was not present.)

After he bought her a milliondollar house, she told her kids that they have to "act rich" now, and after he bought her a new car, she drove it-slowlyaround her ex-husband's neighborhood so everyone could see it. She was unfaithful to her ex



several times with wealthy men, and has told her friends that if they want to meet men with money, they should go to the expensive golf courses.

She complains to her kids about her fiance behind his back, but tells them they need to "treat him nice" and "act happy" around him because he has given them lots of money. And as soon as she got her diamond ring, her kids started telling people that she gets all his money when he dies.

I have seen a list of warning signs of an abuser in your column. Do you have one for spotting a gold digger?

SEES RED FLAGS IN UTAH

DEAR SEES RED: Webster's New World Dictionary defines "gold digger" as "a woman who in her personal relations with men tries to get money and gifts from them." I feel sorry for that woman's fiance because sooner or later he is going to find out how off-kilter her values are.

While I haven't printed a list of red flags for a gold digger (aka manipulator), some phrases to watch out for are, "If you really loved me, you'd ( )" or, "Prove you love me by giving me ( )."

One more thing: Gold diggers are never satisfied. They are bottomless pits that can never be filled. Regardless how many material things they are given, they want more.

DEAR ABBY: Our 16-year-old daughter, "Nola," is pregnant. My husband and I are, to say the least, very disappointed in her. We do not believe in abortion, so we're going to have Nola home-schooled until the baby is born, and then it will be given up for adoption.

What I need is advice on how to deal with this with our 10year-old daughter. There is no way the pregnancy can be hidden from her, especially since the girls share a room. Our youngest daughter knows the basic facts of life, but does not fully understand that girls who are not married sometimes get pregnant and have babies.

I obviously do not want the same thing to happen to her, so I want her to understand that this is very wrong, but want to do so without demonizing her sister, whom she loves and looks up to.

WORRIED OUT WEST

### DEAR WORRIED: Your younger daughter will learn a great deal as Nola's pregnancy progresses. She will see your disappointment, hear your disapproval of sex outside of marriage—not to mention how irresponsible Nola and the father of the baby were for not using birth control-and witness firsthand the pain Nola experiences at placing her child with another family. And if that's not a sobering object lesson, nothing will be.

So worry less, and spend more time letting both of your daughters know you love them unconditionally.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

# Lennon's 'Give Peace a Chance' lyrics to be auctioned

NEW YORK (AP)—A document containing John Lennon's lyrics to "Give Peace a Chance," written during the legendary 1969 Bed-in protest for peace, will be auctioned in London this summer.

In the meantime, fans can see it at Christie's New York auction house through Saturday.

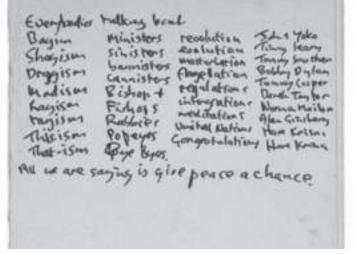
Christie's says he gave the handwritten lyrics to then 16year-old Gail Renard—now a

comedy writer for British television—during the eight-day Bed-in with Lennon and Yoko Ono at the Queens Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal.

Lennon penned the lyrics and recorded the song in the hotel room with about 50 guests, who included singer Petula Clark and beat poet Allen Ginsberg.

The song is expected to bring \$400,000 to \$600,000 at the July 10 London auction.

This picture provided by Christie's Images Ltd., shows John Lennon's iconic lyrics for "Give Peace a Chance," handwritten during the legendary 1969 Bed-in protest, and is expected to bring \$400,000 to \$600,000.





# Coldplay to help ESPN market European Championship soccer

BRISTOL, Conn. (AP)— ESPN and ABC. both Coldplay and ESPN are owned by The Walt Disney teaming up on a soccer marketing campaign.

The rock band's music will be featured in promotions for ESPN's coverage next month of the European Championship soccer tournament, the sports network announced Wednesday.

ESPN agreed to incorporate music from Coldplay's new release, "Viva La Vida," into game and studio production. The quadrennial tournament is scheduled for June 7-29 in Austria and Switzerland. The CD is due out June 12.

Co., have broadcast rights for the tournament in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, South America and India.

Two of the 31 matches will be televised by ABC: a quarterfinal on June 21 and the final on June 29, which will be part of a doubleheader that opens with David Beckham's Los Angeles Galaxy at D.C. United.

Seven games will be on ESPN, 17 on ESPN2 and five on ESPN Classic. This marks the first time the entire Euros will be shown live on nonpay-per-view U.S. television.

# DMX arrested for speeding, reckless driving in Ariz.

PHOENIX (AP)—DMX was arrested after speed-enforcement cameras captured him in his bright yellow 1966 Chevrolet going 114 mph on a suburban Phoenix freeway.

The rapper/actor was taken into custody Tuesday at his north Phoenix home without incident, the Arizona Department of Public Safety said Wednesday. He posted bond and was released.

DMX, whose real name is Earl Simmons, was booked on charges of criminal speeding,

public endangerment, reckless driving and driving on a suspended license.

Electronically activated cameras placed along the Loop 101 freeway in Scottsdale captured him three times on Jan. 21 in his Nova II with a large "DMX" decal on the windshield. He was driving at 100, 101 and 114 mph.

The speed limit on the stretch of roadway is 65 mph.

The 37-year-old's lawyer, Murray Richman, said he had no comment.

# 'Mrs. Garrett' teaches Adam Sandler character facts of life

LOS ANGELES (AP)—At age 82, it sounds like Mrs. Garrett is still teaching youngsters about the facts of life.

Charlotte Rae, who played boarding-school supervisor Edna Garrett on the early-'80s sitcom "The Facts of Life," says she has a cameo appearance in Adam Sandler's new comedy, "You Don't Mess with the Zohan."

Spoiler alert: Rae's role brings the term "cougar" to a new level.

"We make love together," the veteran character actress told AP Television on Tuesday night at a "TV Moms" event held at the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

In the movie, which opens



In this Oct. 3, 2006 file photo, actress Charlotte Rae poses for a photo in New York.

June 6, Sandler plays an Israeli commando who goes undercover as a hair stylist with a penchant for promiscuity.

**36** FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Pastimes**

# Calvin and Hobbes







# **Garfield**®







# Adam@home

18 Rotate

Velvet

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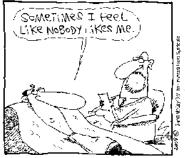
# By Bryan Basset

# The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

**Bv Jim Davis** 









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Yesterday's answer 5-9

1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, tauch Stumped? tone/retary phones. (18+ on y.) A King.

Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Steve** Yzerman, 43; Billy Joel, 59; Candice Bergen, 62; Albert Finney, 72

Happy Birthday: This is not a year to sit idle when you can accomplish so much. Making a move or renovating the place you live to suit your changing needs should all be put into play. Change is upon you -- if you don't make the effort to proceed, the only thing you will feel is frustration. Your numbers are 9, 13, 26, 41, 43, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Making decisions while under emotional stress will turn out badly. You don't have to act fast in this case. In fact, the longer you wait to respond, the better. Patience will be required when dealing with others. 😂

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put your ) heart and soul into your current relationships with family, friends and your lover, if you have one. If you don't, get out and meet new people and, before you know it, you will partner with someone. Develop a new interest.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't leave anything unfinished and, if that means taking a short trip to clear the air with a friend or relative, do so. You may want to address some of your old goals and readjust your way of approaching the same project. •••

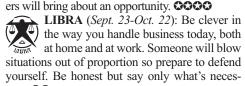
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Love is on the rise and meeting people who have plenty to offer you appears to be in the stars. Open your heart and your home to friends, neighbors and family. Your suggestions will help solve problems; don't meddle. 🛇 🗘



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): An unusual approach to something you do well will capture attention. Someone you work with may become emotional if you haven't pulled your weight. Be sure to finish what you start or have promised.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Socialize, travel or develop something you enjoy doing. Love is in the stars and a relationship can be taken to new heights. Don't be too quick to respond to someone you work with. Helping oth-



sary. 🛇 🔾 SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Avoid anyone who is trying to meddle in your affairs. Travel or get involved in activities that offer a challenge, the chance to network and the opportunity to interact with creative indi-

viduals. OOOOO

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Check out a prospect but don't overspend on things you don't need. Luck may be with you but don't take risks. Avoid being frivolous or overly generous with unworthy people. 🛇 🔾 🔾



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make changes to your home and surroundings, get involved in a great investment or take care of personal issues that have been weighing



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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you down. Now is the time to excel and take control. OOO

you love may question your motives. Play it safe by being honest. Once you clear the AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone air, you can get on with what needs to be done to liven up your home and your relationship with the one you love. A change at work will lead to a better position but more responsibility.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take the initiative to put your ideas into play. Present and promote what you have been working on. An old friend or lover is likely to come back into your life. Enjoy the walk down memory lane; it will motivate you. �����

Birthday Baby: You are kind, understanding and sensitive to what others do, say and think. You are intuitive and adaptable when need be but you tend to cling to what you have and the people

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

| 8 |   |   | 6 |   |   |   | 5 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 |   | 3 |   | 2 |   |   |   |   |
|   | , |   |   |   | 1 |   | 6 |   |
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| 7 |   |   |   |   |   | 8 |   |   |
|   | 9 |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 1 |   | 9 |   | 2 |
| 2 | 3 |   |   |   | 9 |   |   | 1 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

# Vootondou's CHDOVII Answer

|       | Yesterday's Suduku Answer |        |   |   |   |    |   |   |  |  |
|-------|---------------------------|--------|---|---|---|----|---|---|--|--|
| 6     | 4                         | 9      | 2 | 8 | 5 | 7  | 3 | 1 |  |  |
| 7     | 3                         | 2      | 1 | 4 | 9 | 6  | 5 | 8 |  |  |
| 5     | 8                         | 1      | 3 | 7 | 6 | 2  | 9 | 4 |  |  |
| 8     | 1                         | 7      | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3  | 6 | 9 |  |  |
| 2     | 5                         | 4      | 6 | 9 | 3 | 1  | 8 | 7 |  |  |
| 9     | 6                         | 3      | 8 | 1 | 7 | 4  | 2 | 5 |  |  |
| 1     | 2                         | 5      | 9 | 6 | 4 | 8  | 7 | З |  |  |
| 4     | 7                         | 6      | 5 | 3 | 8 | Φ  | 1 | 2 |  |  |
| 3     | 9                         | 8      | 7 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 | 6 |  |  |
| Dire. | le. Les                   | .1 * * | * |   |   |    |   |   |  |  |

5/09

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

# WONDERWORD

By DAVID

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—borizon tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell

| Wonderword   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |           |  |  |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|-----------|--|--|
| AMOND TIARAS |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   | Solution: |  |  |
| F            | 1 | 0 | W | F | R | S | [] | ŀ | - | Y | ſ         |  |  |

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O 2009 Universal Press Eyno cate - I www.woncerword.com Adorned, Fithicay, Carals, Case, Chern, Clear, C. p., Corns. Corn. Design, Diadem, Elegant, Evert. Flowers, Hair, Hold, Homecoming, Magic Ornaments, Pope, Precicus, Princess, Prom. Queen, Ring Semicirde, Shimmer, S. ver, Simulated, Size, Specia, Stones, Stunning, Style Swirl, Tradition, Ve., Waxi, Washing While, Women

Yesterday's Answer: Decorative

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# CLASSIFIED AD

WHATZIT Solution: Just in case

# FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent Koblerville, 2 bedroom \$230.00. Tel. 288-0728

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm. T/B. 24-hr water \$210/month. near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Dan Dan Village. Panoramic view of Lau Lau Bay, large comfortable home with rooftop patios on 2nd and 3rd floor, unfurnished, walled and gated, 5 bedroom/3 bath, safe, secure, private. Call 322-0268. View by appointment.

### FOR RENT - COMMERCIAL

2 Commercial Space for Rent. One 2000 sa.ft. & One 1000 sa.ft. Garapan area across Treasure Island Game Club. Contact Emil

### MISCELLANEOUS

USSP CLUB (Mon/Tue/Wed Nights) Happy hour prices all night-5pm-2am. Live music-Tue/ Wed nights-\$2.50/beer, Mon night-\$2.25/beer

# FOR SALE

1-bedroom/build-in 20ft container wall to wall carpet w/ 12BTU split-type aircon. \$3,500 or best offer/call Rose-233-1984,8am-6pm

Retail store equipments & inventories. More than enough to open new business. All for \$5,500/or best offer-233-1984

# Make it a daily habit! www.saipantribune.com



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP No.: 2008-CDA-05-RFP

**CLOSING DATE: Monday, June 9, 2008** 

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

### "INSURANCE FOR CDA PROPERTIES"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICE, 1ST FLOOR, WAKIN'S BLDG., GUALO RAI, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS OR BY FACSIMILE REQUEST TO

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/OSCAR C. CAMACHO

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN

# **NOTICE REGARDING CNMI GOVERNMENT GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE**

There will be an "Open Enrollment" for the CNMI Government Group Health Insurance Program from May 01 through May 30, 2008. Any employee or retiree not currently enrolled or who desire to change benefits or add a dependent may do so during this open season. Those employees who are already enrolled and do not wish to make a change in their current enrollment are not required to take any action.

CNMI Government Group Health Insurance Enrollment forms are available at any of your Retirement Fund Offices in Saipan (322-8026), Tinian (433-3733) or Rota (532-9516). Completed forms must be submitted to the Retirement Fund Offices no later than May 30, 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

# **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

This is to inform all prospective and potential CNMI Government Vendors and Contractors that LOCAL PREFERENCE PUBLIC LAW 11-87 is being displaced by LOCAL PREFERENCE PL 15-95 and as further amended by PL 15-118.

Copies of current local preference public law 15-118 may be downloaded from the Website at www.cnmileg.gov.mp

Subscribe to **CNMI's First Daily Newspaper** 





# NTED

REPRESENTATIVE and earn 30% to 50% commission Pls. contact Joy Jeter or Jojo Faller at 483-1971, 323-4455 or 483-1097, 287-9300

# **PICK UP plus** BOAT and GERERATOR for SALE 233-5641 Open 7 Day a Week 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

**NEW** Rattan Furniture **Expensive material** Call 789-1625

# **Saturday 5/10/08** 8am-1pm

vases, clothing, etc.

Toys, household items, baskets,

First right turn after the Mobil - p

# APARTMENT UNIT FOR RENT

Located in San Vicente Heights With great view of LaoLao Bay, 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom Semi-furnished apartment unit Asking: \$300 monthly For inquiries: Pls. Contact

Alexander Realty & Development at 234-5117

# IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PERSONAL FINANCE : CIVIL CENTER. Plaintiff, OSCAR M. MASGA

and MARIA B. MASGA. :

Defendants,:

### NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 24, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants in and to the following property Tract No. 22697-2 (formerly part of original tract no. 22697, H-84 A), situated in Sadog Tasi, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as particularly described Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2106/87, the original of which was recorded on June 23, 1987, as Document No. 87-2674 at the nwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 30, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale, The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale

DATED, this 5th day of May, 2008:

/s/ MICHAEL A WHITE Auctionee

LOREN A. SUTTON LAW OFFICE OF LOREN A. SUTTON P.O. BOX 5593 CHRB SAIPAN MP 96950 TEL: (670) 235-8065 FAX: (670) 235-8069

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

| IN THE MATTER<br>OF THE ADOPTION<br>OF | ) FCD-AD<br>) CA NO.<br>) 08-0149 |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| ETHAN FRANKLIN                         | order                             |
| BABAUTA                                | )                                 |
| a minor child                          | )                                 |
| DOB: 6/2/99                            | )                                 |
|  | )                                 |
| BY: FRANCISCO                          | )                                 |
| FUJIHIRA BABAUTA                       | )                                 |
|  | )                                 |
| Petitioner                             | )                                 |
|  | )                                 |

Petition for adoption having

been filled Hearing is now set for the

15th day of May, 2008, at 1:30 p.m.

/s/ KENNETH L. GOVENDO Judge of the Superior Court

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

# **KJUSTK**

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure

**CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES** 

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

ADS (7DAYS) **COMBO** (PRINT AND ONLINE)

 3-Liner \$25 • 5-Liner \$35 • 3-Liner with picture \$45 • 5-Liner with picture \$55

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

1st position \$13.00 2nd position \$5.00 **Succeeding positions** \$2.00

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

### **Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publica-

# **Job Vacancy Announcements**

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:

- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

# CANCELLATION

### **Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

# **Job Vacancy Announcements**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

# **CHECK YOUR ADS**

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

# ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan *Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in this section

The Saipan Tribune now offers

**Classified Ads** 



# **Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Power Generation**



# **INVITATION FOR BIDS COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION CUC-IFB 08-004 - INSTALLATION OF RADIATORS**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting sealed bids for the INSTALLATION OF RADIATORS at the Power Plant 1, Lower Base in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Sealed bids shall be identified on outside of the envelope by Invitation for Bids No. "CUC-IFB 08-004, INSTALLATION OF RADIATORS at the Power Plant 1". Bids in six sets (including original) will be accepted at the Procurement and Supply Office, CUC, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan until 2:00 P.M., on, May 30, 2008, at which time and place will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid documents can be picked up from the office of CUC Procurement and Supply upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$150.00 until 4pm, May 23, 2008. Only the bidders who have paid the fee will be allowed to submit a bid proposal. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the procurement regulations of the CUC.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security. No advance payment will be authorized on the project.

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a COPY of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project will be funded through a grant from the US Department of Interior (DOI). The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less that the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

The project consists, in general the installation of the CUC supplied radiators at the power plant for engine units no. 5 and 6 at Power plant 1. The radiators are manufactured by CBM Technologies Pty. Ltd. and are expected to be available at the power plant facility by July.

A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 A.M., on May 15, 2008, at the CUC Power Plant Conference Room, Lower Base, Saipan, immediately followed by plant visit.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the

All inquiries should be directed to Mr. Manny Sablan, Procurement and Supply Manager and Mr. Venugopal, Flower Generation Engineer email at msablan@cucgov.net / venu@cucgov.net or through / or through Fax - (670) 235-5131

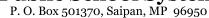
> ANTHONY C. GUERRERO **Executive Director**





Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands **State Board of Education** 

# **Public School System**





# **Request for Proposal** RFP 08-015

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the Purchase, Delivery, and Installation of Playground **Equipment for various Head Start Centers located in both** Rota and Saipan. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 08-015" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than May 26, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Responsibility determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 08-015, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination", containing one (1) original and one (1) copy). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted ınder any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Carl Dela Cruz, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: delacruzc@pss.cnmi.mp.

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

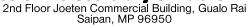
All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Dr. David M. Borja, D.B.A. Commissioner of Education

/S/ Carl F. Dela Cruz **Acting P & S Office** 



# Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works





### **INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW08-IFB-020**

#### LIGHTING RETROFIT FOR GROUND FLOOR LEVEL **REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING T-12 TO HIGH PERFORMANCE T-8** LIGHTING FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Lighting Retrofit for Ground Floor level Replacement of Existing T-12 to High Performance T-8 Lighting for the Commonwealth Health Center, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after May 9, 2008 at DPW Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor-Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan, A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (US\$100,00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commssioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on May 28, 2008, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Commonwealth Health Center Maintenance Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site, AR questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on June 2, 2008 to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director** of Technical Services Division, DPW 2nd Floor Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW08-IFB-020". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 5, 2008. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 5. 2008, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal nust he receiv the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 19, 2008, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a. in. local time, on June 10, 2008.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000,00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks mg be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660"

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is sixty (60) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at one hundred dollars (US\$100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date

This project is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the authorized funding agency.

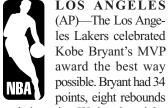
All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG

/s/ THELMA B. INOS Director, Energy Division

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN Director, Procurement & Supply

# Kobe's 34 points help Lakers beat Jazz



and six assists Wednesday night, and the Lakers beat the Utah Jazz 120-110 to take a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference semifinals and remain the NBA's only unbeaten team in the postseason.

The series shifts to Utah for Games 3 and 4 on Friday night and Sunday. The Jazz had an NBA-best 37-4 home record this season, but one of the losses was by 11 points to the Lakers on March 20.

Bryant received his Most Valuable Player trophy from NBA commissioner David Stern in a brief ceremony before the game.

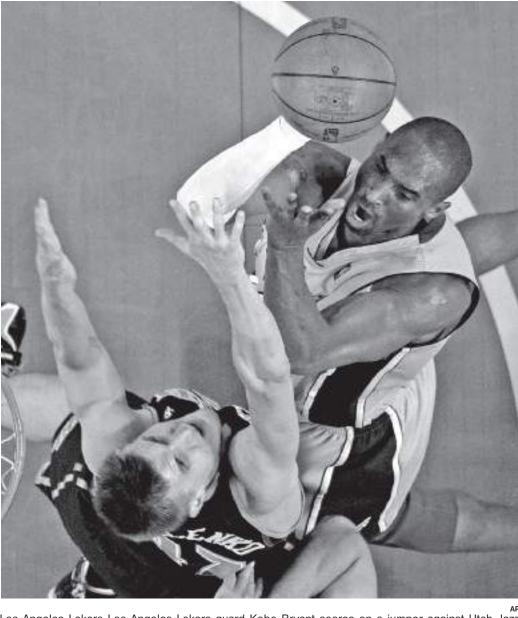
"I'm at a loss for words, I don't know what to say," Bryant said as the Staples Center crowd of 18,997 roared its approval and chanted M-V-P. "I love you guys so much. We're going to play until June. Let's get this party started."

The 29-year-old Bryant was a runaway winner of his first MVP award, receiving 82 first-place votes and 1,100 points to far outdistance New Orleans' Chris Paul in the voting of 126 media members. The results were announced Tuesday.

Following the presentation, Bryant's wife and two young daughters gave him a bouquet of flowers at center court.

Derek Fisher, who played for Utah last season, added 22 points, Pau Gasol scored 20, and Lamar Odom had 19 points and 16 rebounds for the Lakers, who shot 57.4 percent from the field and made 35 free throws—22 more than the Jazz.

Seven Utah players scored



Los Angeles Lakers Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant scores on a jumper against Utah Jazz forward Andrei Kirilenko, of Russia, during the fourth quarter of Game 2 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series at the Staples Center Los Angeles, Wednesday May 7, 2008.

in double figures, led by Deron Williams, who had 25 points, including three 3-pointers in the final minute, and 10 assists. Paul Millsap added a career playoff-high 17 points and 10 rebounds, Mehmet Okur scored 16 points and Andrei Kirilenko added 14. Okur and Kirilenko both fouled

out in the final minute.

Carlos Boozer was held to 10 points—all in the second half. He played less than seven minutes in the first half because of foul trouble.

The Jazz outrebounded the Lakers 58-41 in Game 1, but lost 109-98. They won the battle of

the backboards again 41-37, but shot 44.6 percent while attempting a season-high 101 shots—33 more than Los Angeles.

The Jazz outscored the Lakers 11-4 to get within five points with just under six minutes to play. But a jumper by Sasha Vujacic, a 3-pointer by Fisher and a free

throw by Gasol extended the Lakers' lead to 105-94 with 4:26 left.

A three-point play by Kirilenko made it 107-99 before Bryant fed Gasol for a dunk with 2:40 to go, and the Jazz weren't closer than six points after that.

The Jazz drew within nine points early in the third quarter before Bryant outscored them 9-4 by himself to make it 82-68. A 3-pointer by Williams with 1.5 seconds left in the third quarter trimmed the Lakers' lead to 93-83.

The Lakers led 55-40 before Williams made a 3-pointer for his only points of the first half. It was 63-49 at halftime, and it might have been worse for the Jazz had Millsap not scored 13 points—three more than his previous playoff high.

Williams and Boozer combined to average 39.9 points during the regular season and 35.8 points in Utah's first seven playoff games. They totaled three points in the first half of Game 2.

The Lakers made their first six shots, but trailed by one before Bryant scored six points and Odom added four during a 13-0 run that gave them a 25-13 lead. Boozer left with two fouls and Utah coach Jerry Sloan picked up a technical before Ronnie Brewer's jumper ended the spurt.

The Jazz drew within eight before two 3-pointers by Fisher and a basket by Ronny Turiaf made it 33-18 at the end of the first quarter. Boozer was scoreless when he went to the bench again just 19 seconds into the second quarter after picking up his third foul, and didn't return until the second half.

# Magic 111, Pistons 86

At Orlando, Fla., the Orlando Magic won't be swept by the

Detroit Pistons again. Rashard Lewis made sure of it Wednesday night. Lewis scored a career playoff-high 33 points and the Magic broke down the Pistons' stout defense in a victory.

Detroit leads the Eastern Conference semifinals 2-1, but it may have to play without All-Star point guard Chauncey Billups.

The Pistons lost Billups just four minutes into the game when he drove to the basket and got tangled up with Orlando's Jameer Nelson. Nelson's leg caught Billups' foot, and the Pistons guard fell hard to the court with a strained right hamstring. Billups, Detroit's steady floor leader and clutch 3-point threat, was averaging 17.5 points in the postseason and had 28 against the Magic in Game 2.

Pistons coach Flip Saunders said the team hoped Billups would be able to play in Game 4 on Saturday in Orlando, but would re-evaluate him on Thursday.

"I'm concerned because he's our quarterback; he runs our team," Saunders said. "You saw our first two games. He's been a huge part of why we've been successful—that matchup has been huge for us."

Richard Hamilton scored 24 points for Detroit and Tayshaun Prince had 22, while Rasheed Wallace scored 11 points on 4-of-15 shooting. With Billups out, rookie Rodney Stuckey stepped up big for the Pistons, scoring 19 points—nine in the second quarter.

second quarter after picking up his third foul, and didn't return until the second half.

Dwight Howard had 20 points and 12 rebounds for Orlando, and Nelson and Hedo Turkoglu both scored 18.

The Magic had lost nine straight playoff games to the Pistons, tied for the fourth-longest streak in NBA history. That dated to 2003, when Detroit rallied from a 3-1 deficit to advance, and included a 4-0 sweep in the first round last season.

# Hawks GM to step down despite helping to end playoff drought

ATLANTA (AP)—Billy Knight says he's leaving the Atlanta Hawks "in much better shape than it was in when I took over."

Knight stuck to his slow, often painful plan to build with youth. The plan meant enduring repeated last-place finishes, but the Hawks showed steady if slow improvement and finally ended a nine-year playoff drought this season.

Knight's critics have said the Hawks' climb to the playoffs wouldn't have taken so long if the general manager had enjoyed more consistent success with his high draft picks.

Knight, who announced Wednesday he's stepping down July 1 as general manager after six years in Atlanta, leaves with a mixed track record.

The good: Knight brought guards Joe Johnson and Mike Bibby to Atlanta in trades. He scored big by landing Josh Smith with a late 2004 first-round pick and rookie of the year runner-up Al Horford with the No. 3 pick last year.

The bad: Knight also brought free-agent bust Speedy Claxton to the Hawks' backcourt two years ago. He drafted Marvin Williams instead of point guards Chris Paul or Deron Williams with the No. 2 pick of the 2005 draft.

Williams was a steady starter for Utah this season but Paul emerged as an All-Star and MVP runner-up for New Orleans.

More bad: At a time point guard and center remained the team's glaring needs, Knight chose forward Shelden Williams with the fifth pick in the 2006 draft.

Michael Gearon Jr., one of the Hawks' owners, said it was Knight's decision, not the owners', for the GM to resign.

Gearon also said Knight's resignation does not affect any decision to be made with coach Mike Woodson.

"You cannot tie the two together," Gearon told The Associated Press. "Frankly, this was not a decision by us, it was a decision by Billy."

Gearon said he had no list

of candidates to replace Knight "because this was unexpected."

Knight said it was time to "take a break" following an often rocky tenure in Atlanta.

Most recently, Knight's authority appeared to be weakened when he lobbied unsuccessfully with the owners to fire Woodson this season.

The Hawks, absent from the playoffs since 1999, lost in the first round to the heavily favored Boston Celtics in seven games. Over six years, Knight played the lead role in rebuilding the Hawks and ended the NBA's longest playoff drought.

Knight, 55, rebuilt the roster with younger players. The Hawks were 37-45 in the regular season to earn the No. 8 playoff seed in the Eastern Conference.

"I am tremendously pleased with what we were able to accomplish this season in reaching the postseason, as the Hawks' return to the playoffs energized the city and our franchise," Knight said in a statement. "My passion for the franchise has

never wavered."

Knight's best draft pick, rookie of the year runner-up Al Horford, provided much-needed inside toughness as a starting center.

Knight's last trade helped give the Hawks their final push to the playoffs. He traded Shelden Williams as part of a package of players for Bibby, who provided leadership for Smith, Josh Childress and Marvin Williams.

Knight went to ownership to discuss a coaching change after acquiring Bibby. Gearon and the ownership group stuck with Woodson.

Woodson said he learned of Knight's resignation "when I walked in my office" on Wednesday morning.

"That's all I know right now," Woodson said. "I'm trying to get some details on what's going on and what happened. They just told me and I'm trying to reach ownership group to see what's going on."

Woodson did not return e-mail or phone messages Wednesday

afternoon.

Knight said Woodson and the coaching staff "are most deserving of the praise and accolades they earned during a tough, seven-game series against the Eastern Conference's top team entering the playoffs, and I wish them and the Hawks organization the very best in the future."

Knight's biggest trade was acquiring Johnson from Phoenix in a 2005 deal for Boris Diaw and two first-round picks.

Johnson has been a two-time All-Star in Atlanta, but the deal was so controversial it splintered the ownership group. The dispute between Boston-based Steve Belkin, who thought the Hawks gave up too much in the deal, and the other owners remains unsettled.

Mains unsettled.

Knight was the general manager of the Vancouver/Memphis Grizzlies before he was hired as Hawks' director of basketball operations before the 2002-03 season. Knight was promoted to general manager after Pete Babcock was fired in 2003.

# Anthony cited for speeding 3 weeks after DUI arrest

**DENVER** (AP)—Denver Nuggets All-Star Carmelo Anthony has been ticketed for speeding, three weeks after he was cited on a charge of driving under the influence. Police say Anthony was pulled over Saturday for driving 60 mph in a 45-mph zone.

The 23-year-old was arrested on a DUI charge in Denver on April 14. He apologized the next day. He is scheduled to be in court June 5 on the DUI charge.

Police spokesman Sonny Jackson says Anthony does not have to appear in court on the speeding ticket if he mails in the \$130 fine.

# Rhodes signs deal to return to Colts



In this Jan. 25, 2007 file photo, Indianapolis Colts running back Dominic Rhodes answers a question during a press conference at the Colts football practice facility in Indianapolis



gether.

**INDIANAPOLIS** (AP)—The Colts have put their tagteam runners-Joseph Addai and Dominic Rhodes—back to-

The tandem that helped Indianapolis win its first Super Bowl title has been reunited after Rhodes agreed on a one-year deal to return to the Colts. Rhodes' agent, Mike McCartney confirmed the signing Wednesday in an e-mail to The Associated Press although he did not disclose financial details.

The move means Indy will have two 1,000-yard runners in its backfield next season.

What fans will remember most about the two runners is their impressive 2006 playoff run.

As they split carries, Addai and Rhodes combined for 190 yards rushing in a 23-8 victory over Kansas City, closed out a

15-6 victory in Baltimore when Indy settled for five field goals and then helped wear down New England's defense in the AFC championship game. Addai scored on a 3-yard run with a minute left to give Indy a 38-34 victory over the Patriots.

In the Super Bowl, they were even better. Addai ran 19 times for 77 yards, while Rhodes finished with 113 yards rushing and one touchdown in a 29-17 victory over Chicago.

The transition should be smooth for Rhodes.

He spent his first six NFL seasons with the Colts, rushing for 2,274 yards. Rhodes set the league record for an undrafted rookie with 1,104 yards rushing in 2001. He also was the starter for all 16 regular-season games in 2006 before losing the job to Addai in the playoffs.

Then, last spring, Rhodes became a free agent and signed a

two-year deal with Oakland. He was hoping for a chance to start, but after serving a four-game suspension for violating the league's substance abuse policy, his opportunities dwindled. He finished with 75 carries, 302 yards and one TD.

Shortly after the NFL draft, the Raiders released him.

The addition of Rhodes means the Colts will have added more depth to an already talented backfield.

Addai, the starter, topped 1,000 yards in each of his first two seasons. Indy also drafted Michigan running back Mike Hart in the sixth round and still has last year's primary backup—Kenton Keith.

Keith was arrested last month, six days before the draft, after police said he refused to leave the parking lot of a nightclub. He was charged with criminal trespassing and

has pleaded not guilty. Rhodes also has a legal history in Indy.

He was pulled over by an Indiana state trooper in February 2007 for driving 81 mph in a 55-mph zone. He was originally charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and operating a vehicle with a blood-alcohol level above the legal limit, but later pleaded guilty to reckless driving.

In 2002, Rhodes was charged with domestic battery in connection with a disturbance at his home involving his child's mother, Latrina Moore. He avoided prosecution and was placed in a diversionary program and underwent mental health counseling.

Rhodes sat out the entire 2002 season after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee, which occurred during training camp.

# NFL BRIEFS

### Walsh sends NFL 8 tapes that don't include Rams' walkthrough

NEW YORK (AP)—Former Patriots video assistant Matt Walsh sent the NFL eight videotapes that show New England violated league rules by recording opposing coaches' playcalling signals. The tapes include signals by coaches of five opponents in six games from 2000-02, but don't include video from the St. Louis Rams' walkthrough before the 2002 Super Bowl. The NFL said it received a letter from Michael Levy, the lawyer for Walsh, detailing the tapes that were scheduled to arrive Thursday at the league's New York offices. The tapes sent to the NFL show the Patriots recorded signals in regular-season games against Miami, Buffalo, Cleveland and San Diego, and against Pittsburgh in the 2002 AFC championship game. "This is consistent with what the Patriots had admitted they had been doing, consistent with what we already knew," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello told The Associated Press.

### Haynesworth working on his own, won't be at Titans minicamp

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—The Tennessee Titans will be holding a minicamp without defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth. The Titans are due to hit the field Thursday and Friday as part of their on-field training, but they will not have arguably their best defensive player with them. "Albert is continuing to work out on his own," agent Chad Speck said in an e-mail. The Titans tagged Haynesworth as their franchise player in February to keep him from leaving as an unrestricted free agent. Tennessee must reach a long-term contract deal with Haynesworth by July 15. If that doesn't happen, the team can only sign him to a one-year deal worth \$7.8 million.

### **Broncos quarterback Cutler** diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes

**DENVER** (AP)—Denver Broncos quarterback Jay Cutler has been diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, his business manager Marty Garafalo confirmed Thursday night. The 25-year-old Cutler found out about two weeks ago that he was diabetic and needed daily insulin injections, Garafalo told The Associated Press. He said Cutler was managing his disease and "in no way is his football career jeopardized." Some 21 million Americans have diabetes, meaning their bodies cannot properly turn blood sugar into energy. Either they don't produce enough insulin or don't use it correctly. With the Type 1 form, the body's immune system attacks insulinproducing pancreatic cells, so that patients require insulin injections

### Former Vikings limeman Scott arrested on suspected assault

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Former Minnesota Vikings defensive lineman Darrion Scott has been arrested after police searched his Eden Prairie residence. Police say Scott was booked into the Hennepin County jail Wednesday on suspicion of assault and malicious punishment of a child. The 26-year-old Scott is a free agent after spending the past four seasons with the Vikings. Last season, he was placed on injured reserve after four games with a broken foot. Scott's agent, Tim DiPiero, said he was trying to find out details

# toxication, resisting arrest enson to

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago Bears running back Cedric Benson believes officers used excessive force against him and plans to fight charges he operated a boat while intoxicated and resisted arrest on a Texas lake over the weekend.

"He denies that he was intoxicated," attorney Brian Carney said Monday. "He denies that he resisted arrest."

Benson is scheduled to appear in Travis County Court on May 19 to face charges stemming from an incident Saturday night.

Benson failed a sobriety test while operating a 30-foot boat on Lake Travis near Austin and resisted arrest before being hit with pepper spray, Travis County Sheriff's Department spokesman Roger Wade said Sunday.

He was released from jail early Sunday on a \$14,500 bond. The charges are class B misdemeanmonths in jail and a \$2,000 fine.

Benson's version of what happened is drastically different from the police's description.

"There was no resistance on my part," Benson told the Chicago Tribune. "Was I drunk? No."

Police say Benson was operating the boat with 15 passengers when a Lower Colorado River Authority officer stopped him for a random safety inspection. He failed a field sobriety test on the officer's boat and was uncooperative when the officer tried to take him ashore, the authority said.

Benson argued whether he would go to land for a follow-up field sobriety test and refused to

put on a life jacket, and the officer had to use pepper spray to subdue him, the authority said. ors, each punishable by up to six He refused to leave the officer's boat and had to be dragged to a car to be taken to the Travis County jail, the authority said.

Carney acknowledged his client owned the boat, but he questioned whether Benson was behind the wheel and wondered why officers felt threatened.

"Is he going to jump in the lake and swim away?" Carney said. "You just swim into the night? You start the boat and take him over there."

Carney said Benson was "completely compliant" and even said "thank you very much" after he completed the sobriety test. He said Benson then told them he wanted to go

back to his boat.

Carney added Benson did nothing "aggressive" until after he was pepper sprayed, when he started screaming for his mother and the boat. He said officers threw his client to the ground and poured water on him to wash away the spray, causing Benson to choke.

"They might as well have been waterboarding him," Carnev said.

The Bears declined comment on Monday.

A day earlier, coach Lovie Smith said he was "disappointed" by the news.

"I haven't had a chance to speak with Cedric yet, but any time we're talking about one of our players getting arrested you're disappointed in it," he said Sunday at the end of the Bears' three-day rookie mini- Thomas Jones, he rushed for camp in Lake Forest.

This wasn't Benson's first run-in with the law.

He was sentenced to eight days in jail in 2003 for a misdemeanor trespassing charge after forcing his way into an apartment to look for a reported stolen TV. In 2002, misdemeanor drug and alcohol charges against him were dropped.

The Bears took Benson with the fourth pick in the 2005 draft after he rushed for more than 5,500 yards and 64 touchdowns at the University of Texas. But instead of developing into a star, the 25-year-old has been plagued by injuries and alienated teammates with blunt comments since arriving in Chicago.

As a rookie backing up

272 yards in nine games. He was more effective the next season while sharing time with Jones, going for six touchdowns and 647 yards, but took a big step backward last season after the Bears traded away Jones and made him the featured back.

Benson rushed for 674 yards, four touchdowns and 3.4 yards a carry before going on injured reserve with a broken ankle in November.

In three years with the Bears, Benson has rushed for 1,593 yards and 10 touchdowns, averaging 3.8 yards a carry. He's also missed 13 games. And the Bears had already made it clear their patience was wearing thin by drafting Tulane running back Matt Forte in the second round.

# Lee outpitches Wang in Indians win over Yankees



YORK Cliff

Lee threw seven sharp innings Wednesday night to beat Wang Chien-ming in a matchup of unbeaten starters, leading the Cleveland Indians to a 3-0 victory over the New York Yankees.

Lee (6-0) became the first Indians pitcher to win his first six starts since Greg Swindell in 1988 and lowered his major league-best ERA to a microscopic 0.84. The left-hander has allowed just four earned runs in 44 2-3 innings after a rough 2007 that included a stint in the minors. He hasn't walked a batter in 28 straight innings.

Wang (6-1) allowed three runs and five hits in seven innings for the Yankees, who dropped to 3-5 on their nine-game homestand.

# Tigers 10, Red Sox 9

At Detroit, Placido Polanco hit a broken-bat, tiebreaking single with two outs in the ninth off Jonathan Papelbon as Detroit edged Boston.

Boston had everything set up for its sixth straight win, rallying from a four-run deficit with its star closer on the mound. But Papelbon (2-1) blew his first save in 11 chances by allowing two unearned runs.

Matt Joyce hit a leadoff single off Papelbon in the ninth and error created a jam. After Curtis Granderson's RBI groundout, Polanco blooped one over a leaping Lugo for his season-high fifth hit.

### Royals 9, Angels 4

At Kansas City, Missouri, David DeJesus and Alex Gordon both homered and Kansas City. the lowest-scoring team in the American League, banged out 14 hits to beat the Angels.

Zack Greinke (4-1) went seven innings for the victory as the Royals snapped the Angels' four-game winning streak and won at home for just the fourth time in 13 games.

### Blue Jays 6, Rays 2

At Toronto, Shaun Marcum came one out away from a shutout and Scott Rolen hit a two-run homer to lead Toronto over Tampa Bay.

Marcum (4-2) struck out nine, allowing two runs in 8 2-3 innings. He won back-to-back starts for the first time this season and lowered his ERA to 2.59.

### Athletics 6, Orioles 5, 10 innings

At Oakland, California, Mark Ellis broke out of his offensive funk in a big way, hitting the first game-ending home run of his career with two outs in the 10th inning as Oakland beat Baltimore.

Ellis connected on a 1-0 pitch from loser Lance Cormier (0-1),

E W shortstop Julio Lugo's fielding a solo shot that hit the left-field foul pole. Ellis ended his 0-for-17 funk with a two-out single in the singled with two outs in the sixth.

### Twins 13, White Sox 1

At Chicago, Carlos Gomez became the first Twins player since Kirby Puckett 22 years ago to hit for the cycle, Livan Hernandez took a shutout into the ninth and Minnesota beat Chicago.

One night after Chicago's Gavin Floyd lost a no-hitter in the ninth, Gomez homered off Mark Buehrle (1-4) on the game's third pitch. He added an RBI triple in the fifth, doubled in a run in the sixth and completed the cycle with an infield single to lead off a sixrun ninth. The ball deflected off reliever Ehren Wasserman, forcing a rushed throw by shortstop Alexei Ramirez that sailed wide.

# Rangers 2, Mariners 0

At Seattle, Vicente Padilla allowed two hits over seven innings to outpitch Erik Bedard and Milton Bradley homered as Texas beat the struggling Seattle.

Bradley hit his fourth home run in the sixth and scored both runs. Brandon Boggs had an run-scoring triple in the fourth.

Padilla (5-2), who has won three straight starts, walked two and struck out a season-high eight. He has allowed just one run in his last three starts, spanning 21 2/3 innings. He lowered

his overall ERA to 3.02.

### Reds 9, Cubs 0

At Cincinnati, Jon Lieber became only the second pitcher in Chicago Cubs history to allow four homers in an inning, and Joey Votto connected three times in all as the Cincinnati Reds powered their way to a 9-0 victory on Wednesday.

Votto started a four-homer second inning off Lieber (2-2), who was making his first start of the season. Adam Dunn and Paul Bako also had solo shots, and Jerry Hairston Jr.'s two-run homer completed the historymatching rally. Brandon Phillips and Votto hit consecutive solo homers off Sean Marshall in the fifth. An inning later, Votto completed the biggest game of his two-year career with a tworun drive off Sean Gallagher.

# Mets 12, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, John Maine became the first New York starter this season to pitch more than seven innings, taking a shutout into the ninth.

Maine (4-2) hit a two-run single and was two outs from his third shutout and complete game in Major League Baseball when Matt Kemp hit an RBI single, extending his hitting streak to 12 games. A day before his 27th birthday, Maine allowed four hits in 8 1-3 innings and won his third straight start.

### **Braves 5, Padres 2**

At Atlanta, pinch-hitter Greg Norton broke a seventh-inning tie with a bases-loaded single and Atlanta beat San Diego for its fifth straight win.

With the game tied 2-2, Padres starter Randy Wolf (2-2) was lifted after loading the bases in the seventh on Brian McCann's double, Matt Diaz's single and Mark Kotsay's walk.

Kelly Johnson's fly ball to center drove in Diaz, and Yunel Escobar added a run-scoring single to left for a 5-2 lead. Wolf gave up eight hits and five runs with four walks and one strikeout.

# **Pirates 3, Giants 1**

At Pittsburgh, Xavier Nady hit a two-run homer to spoil Barry Zito's mostly effective return to the San Francisco rotation and Pittsburgh's Phil Dumatrait pitched 5 2-3 scoreless innings for his first

Zito (0-7), roughed up in each of his first six starts, was far better after spending 10 days working out his problems in the bullpen. The left-hander worked five innings, allowing three hits, two runs, two walks and five strikeouts was easily his best of the season.

### Marlins 6, Brewers 2

At Miami, rookie Burke Badenhop pitched 5 2-3 innings for his first major league victory and Florida dealt Milwaukee its fifth loss in a row.

The Brewers' longest losing

streak this season sent their record below .500 for the first time.

# **Astros 4, Nationals 3**

At Houston, Carlos Lee drove in the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning with a single to lift Houston past Washington for its fifth straight win.

Lee's liner flew just over the head of Lastings Milledge and scored Kaz Matsui.

Matsui walked and stole second in the ninth before Joel Hanrahan (0-2) intentionally walked Lance Berkman. Jesus Colome came on in relief and Matsui advanced to third on a wild pitch before Lee's hit. Lee second consecutive gamewinning RBI against Washington

### **Rockies 4, Cardinals 3**

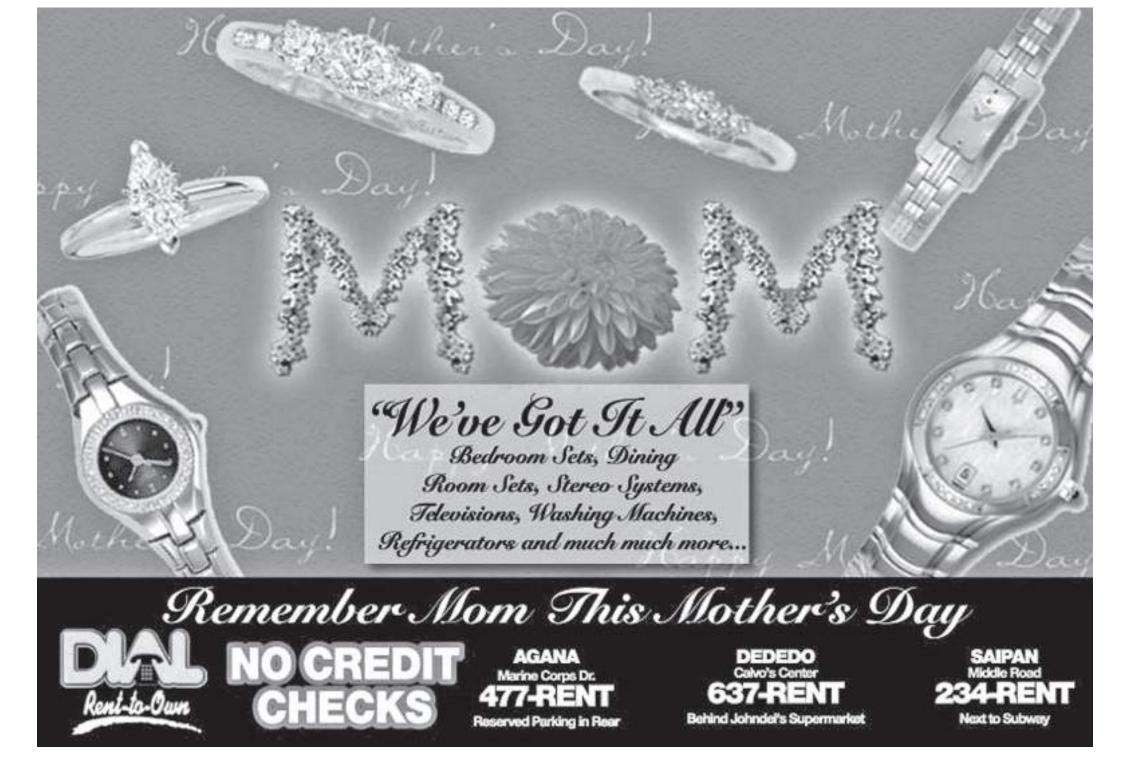
At Denver, Chris Iannetta tripled home two runs off Jason Isringhausen to cap a four-run eighthinning rally for Colorado.

After managing just four hits off Adam Wainwright in seven innings, the Rockies rallied against St. Louis' bullpen to win for just the fourth time in 17 games.

### Phillies 5, **Diamondbacks 4**

At Phoenix, Chase Utley singled in the go-ahead run in the eighth and Arizona twice blew late-inning leads against Philadelphia.

Conor Jackson went 2-for-3 with two RBIs, including a runscoring double that put Arizona up 4-3 in the seventh, but he left the game after a nasty head-tohead collision with the Phillies' Shane Victorino in the eighth.



# X-Terminators outlast Ol'Aces

REPORTER



One streak lives on while another one ended Wednesday night in the 2008 FMI Inter-Color

Basketball League.

The Advance X-Terminators outlasted Ol'Aces after pulling off a nail-biting 105-103 win in the FMI league's open division at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Earlier, Ariel Jinang scattered 19 points to lead the Tan Holdings/CTSI Pacers to a 91-83 victory against the Fixers in the master's class.

It was the X-Terminators' sixth straight win while ending the five-game winning run of the Sonny Flores-mentored Ol'Aces.

Ol'Aces led by eight points in the final two minutes of the match as Freddy Pelisamen scored six straight points on fastbreak layups.

Andres "Jhun" Estolas Jr., however, countered with an eight-point swing of his own, capped by back-to-back 3-pointers to tie the game, time down to 19 seconds.

After an Ol'Aces missed attempt on the other end, Estolas grabbed the rebound and the

speedy guard wisely dribbled past his defenders before being fouled with three seconds left in the game clock.

Since Ol'Aces were in the penalty, Estolas was awarded two free throws, calmly making both his charity attempts to give the X-Terminators the lead.

Many time CNMI National Team member Elias Rangamar made a desperation heave at the 3-point area that could have won them the game. Rangamar's shot hit the rim and nearly went in.

Both teams battled into several deadlocks and lead changes but neither squad led by as much as 10 points in the tightly fought match. Ol'Aces took a 29-23 lead after the first quarter but trailed at 49-54 at halftime.

Estolas erupted for 40 points with 13 coming in the crucial stretch of the fourth period, while Jonathan Lim added 20 markers. Kelvin Fitial and Gyles Ruluked added 12 apiece, while Lerio Pagarao chipped in 11 more.

The loss put to waste Pelisamen's and Jericho Cruz's game-long exploits as they combined for more than half of Ol'Aces' points. Cruz finished with a team-high 38 points, while Pelisamen tallied 30 markers.

Abong Camacho ended up

with 15 points, while Rangamar netted 10 also for Ol'Aces, which missed the scoring savvy and inside incursions of Jack Lizama, Marvin Rabauliman, and Pete Iguel.

Lizama and Rabauliman had an off night combining only for 10 points for Ol'Aces, while Iguel failed to suit up for unknown reasons.

In the first game, Jinang scored 14 of his team-high 19 markers to lead the Pacers to a 91-83 decision against the hard-luck Fixers.

The Fixers were very much into the game and trailed only by four, 59-63, after three quarters but could not come up with a decent rally that could have ended their five-game losing skid. The win improved CTSI's record to 2-3.

Ferdie Tobias and Adonis Macoto contributed 16 and 15 markers, while Jimmy Salazar and Justin Solimdum chipped in 12 and 10 apiece also for the Pacers.

Art Salazar paced the Fixers with 20 points, while Boy Garcia, Yasu Irinaka, George Villasan, and Ferdie Dela Torre added 14, 13, 12, and 11 markers.

Today's game will have GEC Pawnshop battling the Taga Warriors in the 6:30pm opener in the masters division,

while the TASI Tours Giants clash with SMF Seabridge in the second game in the open category.

On Sunday, Shirley's Coffee Shop will try to end a two-game slide when it battles a struggling Star Water side in the 3pm first game, while the Pacers will test Bank of Saipan in the second match.

The X-Terminators will gun for their seventh straight win when they go up against the Price Costco Storemasters in the 6pm nightcap.

#### **First Game**

CTSI Pacers 91 – Jinang 19, Alcantara 16, Opone 15, Salazar 12, Solidum 10, Dimaano 8, Galag 5, Garcia 4, Ramoran 2.

Fixers 83 - Salazar 20, Garcia 14, Irinaka 13, Villasan 12, Dela Torre 11, Berline 8, Johlend 2, Nepaial 2, David 1.

Scoring by quarters: 24-15, 43-38, 63-59, 91-83.

#### **Second Game**

Advance X-Terminators 105 - Estolas 40, Lim 20, Fitial 12, Ruluked 12, Pagarao 11, Capalad 4, Dayrit 4, Artates 2.

Ol'Aces 103 - Cruz 38, Pelisamen 30, Camacho 15, Rangamar 10, Lizama 8, Rabauliman 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-29, 54-49, 74-72, 105-103.

# JCI golf fundraiser tees off May 17

Junior Chamber International will hold its 16th golf fundraiser on May 17 at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course.

Organized by the local chapter of the JCI, the golf tournament aims to raise money to fund the group's yearly cultural exchange program. This year, JCI CNMI again plans to bring local high school students to South Korea.

tournament, The dubbed simply as the JCI Golf Fundraiser,

will have two categories—open and ladies. Champions from both division will each receive \$300 and second and third placers will take home in-kind prizes.

It will utilize the Calloway system to compute the net scores of participants. Aside from the cash and in-kind prizes a spanking new 2008 Mazda MP3 sports sedan will be awarded to the lucky golfer who manages a hole-in-one in the JCI Golf Fundraiser.

Sign-up and registration for the event is 11:30am on game day itself, May 17.

Proceeds from the competition will help pay part of the expected \$40,000 cost for JCI's annual cultural exchange program to South Korea set for June 3 and 6.

Expected to join the golf fundraiser on May 17 are local Korean golfers, top government

employees, members of the Legislature, and businessmen.

Entry fee for the golf fundraiser is \$100 (inclusive of green fee) and also entitles participants to take part in the awards banquet set on the evening of the tournament at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort, beginning 6:30pm.

The Junior Chamber International Inc. is a worldwide organization with nearly 400,000 members spanning some 105 countries worldwide. (Mark Rabago)

# SOCC

From Page 44

gets off the canoe and will be picked up by the chase boat.

The 40-mile, two-day challenge took place during the San Jose Fiesta in Tinian where they paddled from Saipan to Tinian and back. The trip back

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

on the second day was slightly tougher due to the fatigue of the previous day.

The channel is between Saipan and Tinian with its illusive and dreaded whirlpool, which is the most challenging part of the crossing. Paddlers went against the wind and swells in the second day of the crossing.

# SPLIT

From Page 44

Herman Guerrero only went 1-for-3 a solo inside-the-park homer in the McDonald's' threerun second inning.

The loss wasted the 3-for-3 performance of Frankey Lizama, who also scored two runs for Hustlers II. Jonathan Villagomez went 2-for-4 with two runs, and five RBIs, and an inside-the-park home run.

Villagomez blasted a threerun inside the parker in a fourrun third inning and slapped a two-RBI triple in the fourth.

### Patriots 12, McDonald's 2

On Tuesday, Jun Rabauliman blasted his sixth home run of the season in leading the Patriots to an easy 12-2 win over McDonald's.

Rabauliman, who flied out to Herman Guerrero at center field in his first at bat, went 2-for-3 with two runs and three RBIs. He had an RBI triple in the third to let Chris Mizer score and whacked a two-run round-tripper that went over the fence.

Rabauliman's two-run four-bagger highlighted the Patriots' sevenrun fourth inning that ended the game vie the 10-run mercy rule.

Jose Lizama went 3-for-4 scoring twice, had a double, and two RBIs, while Jared Sablan went perfect at the plate going 3-for-3 with two doubles and an RBI. Richard Borja went 2-for-2 with a run and two doubles.

Jared Sablan pitched three one-hit innings in relief striking out four batters and gave up one walk. Jared Lizama connected with a single in the third inning for McDonald's' lone hit.

Lizama also scored one run on a stolen base while Josh Villagomez, who was hit by a pitch, reached home plate on a passed ball.

Senior, and Big League divisions,

saying the Saipan Little League

board needs to be more involved

to remove the popularity contest

that has plagued the selection pro-

Tenorio wanted to choose

all-star members based on

their achievements and the

way they perform offensively

cess in the past years.

and defensively.

#### **MLB STANDINGS AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division** Pct .611 14 .515 3 1/2 16

W 22 17 Tampa Bay New York 17 18 .486 4 1/2 Toronto 17 18 .486 4 1/2 16 .471

**Central Division** Minnesota 17 15 .531 16 17 .485 15 17 .469 15 18 .455

#### Cleveland 1 1/2 Chicago 2 Kansas City 2 1/2 Detroit 15 20 .429 3 1/2 **West Division**

Los Angeles 22 14 .611 **Oakland** 22 14 .611 6 1/2 Texas 20 .429 Seattle 14 21 .400 7 1/2

#### **NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division** Florida 19 14

15 .571 Atlanta 17 15 .531 1 1/2 New York 17 15 .531 1 1/2 Washington 14 20 5 1/2 **Central Division** 

#### St. Louis 13 Chicago .559 2 1/2 19 15 Houston 18 16 .529 3 1/2 Milwaukee 16 17 .485 Pittsburah 14 .424 19

14 21

Cincinnati

**West Division** 22 12 .647 3 Los Angeles 19 .559 San Francisco 14 20 .412 8 Colorado 13 21 .382 9 San Diego 12

# Yesterday's Games Cincinnati 9, Chicago Cubs 0

N.Y. Mets 12. L.A. Dodgers 1 Atlanta 5. San Diego 2 Pittsburgh 3, San Francisco 1 Florida 6, Milwaukee 2 Houston 4. Washington 3 Colorado 4, St. Louis 3 Philadelphia 5, Arizona 4 Oakland 6. Baltimore 5. 10 innings Detroit 10, Boston 9 Cleveland 3, N.Y. Yankees 0 Toronto 6, Tampa Bay 2 Kansas City 9, L.A. Angels 4 Minnesota 13, Chicago White Sox 1 Texas 2. Seattle 0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# **LOCAL SCORES**

**Little League Standings** 

#### **Majors** 12 **Patriots** Red Sox 10 3 10 3 0l'Aces Hustlers I 9 1 Survivors 9 3 4 Braves 8 5 Dragons Dolphins 4 7 Twins 7 **Pirates** Lions 7 Athletics McDonald's 10 Dare JPO's 9 0 11 Suns

### **FMI Standings Open division**

5

7

8

.400

Advance X-Terminators 0 0l'Aces GEC Pawnshop 2 Shirley's Coffee Shop 2 TASI Tours 2 Price Costco 3 SMF-Seabridge 3 Starwater 5 MIGS 6

# **Masters division**

Taga Warriors Bank of Saipan **GEC Pawnshop** Tan Holdings CTSI 3 Fixers 0

# **MAJORS**

From Page 44

held simultaneously at the Tan Ge and SVES baseball fields.

The Saipan Little League board agreed on this since they have to play at least 10 more make-up games in the regular season. This was the decision made by the board, led by president Juan I. Tenorio.

Tenorio said they have to use both fields in order to wrap up the regular season so they could move on into the playoff and championship round. He added they need to finish the season so

they would have enough time for the selection of the all-star team for the CNMI District and Asia-Pacific regional tournaments in Rota and Hong Kong.

"If we would follow the same schedule we won't have enough time to prepare for the district and Asia-Pacific tournaments," Tenorio said.

Scheduling problems at the Tan Ge field and the unpredictable Saipan weather forced them to cancel a number of their regular season games.

"We cannot predict the weather on Saipan. We have no choice but to cancel games if it is raining or there is volcanic haze. We have

to first think of the safety of the kids and for health reasons," said Tenorio in a recent interview.

SLL board treasurer Annie Flores met with SVES acting principal Betty Miller to ask them if the Saipan Little League could hold games at their field.

"We're OK to use the San Vicente field starting next week for our games. Games will be held from Tuesday to Thursday. Now we have to do is to come up with a schedule for the remainder of the games," said Flores.

Tenorio also wanted to implement changes in the selection process for the managers and all-star members in the Majors, Junior,

The board is also scheduled to meet with the umpires in preparation for the CNMI District Tournament on Rota and the Asia-Pacific Regional Tournament on Saipan. They will soon

come out with an official list of

umpires. tion will hold a special Moth-

The entrance fee is \$3 and it will be given to the winners.

# CHAMPIONS

From Page 44

Peraja and Vargas.

Savellano and Samonte had a consolation of sorts after a 21-23, 21-10, 21-17 win over Shirley Kim and Malou Malasarte netted them third place.

In the mixed doubles, Vales paired up with Malasarte to earn the title due to having the higher quotient among the five pairs that survived the single elimination round.

Balarao and Lot Abuel placed second after a 21-13, 21-18 win over Lucelle Lampera and Gary Bandoja, who earned third place honors.

Balarao and Abuel scored a 31-22 win over Efren Cacdac and Ito in the semis. while Lampera and Bandoja stunned June Pineda and Janice Bungalos, 33-31, in the other pairing.

In other news, the Northern Marianas Badminton Federaer's Day Badminton Tournament. The tournament is open to all mothers from 8:30am to 10:30am.

is a doubles event and random draw that will use a single-elimination format. Exciting prizes

# Guam, Tinian teams to take part in spearfishing tourney

Three of the four major islands of the Marianas chain will be represented in the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament set for May 17 in the waters around Saipan.

Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club vice president Felix Sasamoto said aside from the regulars on Saipan, spearfishing enthusiasts from Guam and Tinian will also take part in the event.

He added that he and MASC president Morito Asai will also be joining the over 20 participants this year.

"This year's tournament will be very competitive and challenging because there are more teams joining this year. I will be joining this year's competition and I'll be teaming up with MASC president Morito Asai. Guam teams headed by Mr. James Borja and Tinian teams headed by Mr. Joe Untalan will be competing as well. Saipan, Tinian, and Guam teams are up for the challenge. May the best spearfisher and team win," Sasamoto said in an email to the



Participants of last year's Inaugural Spearfishing Tournament pose for a group photo. The 2008 edition of the event is set for May 17 around the waters of Saipan.

Saipan Tribune.

The 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament will be held two Saturdays from now with a 6am start and a 3:30pm finish. Sasamoto, however, said participants should check in at the Smiling Cove Marina by 5am for gear inspection.

Registration fee is \$40 per diver and will entitle them to an event T-shirt, MASC car sticker, and food and drinks during competition day.

Categories up for grabs are heaviest weight—for

individual and team—and biggest species. Sasamoto said the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament has categories for up to 10 different type of species.

Winners will take home cash

and in-kind prizes such as spearguns and a lot of giveaways. Last Tuesday MASC held

a meeting about the event and

it was attended by Saipan Fishermen's Association president Gene Weaver, Division of Fish and Wildlife's Jack Ogumoro, Division of Environmental Quality's Peter Houk, as well as boaters, volunteers, and professional spearfishermen.

Registration forms, rules and regulation forms, and flyers were also all given out during the meeting.

The 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament's sponsors include MARPAC, Palms Resort & Spa, Sen. Luis Crisostomo, Rep. Ralph Torres, Saipan Fishing Tackle, The Torres Brothers,

Saipan Fishermen Association, Marianas Visitors Authority, O.M.E.R., Cressi-sub, Pacifica Insurance, and Sen. Maria T. Pangelinan.

MASC is also looking for volunteers and boaters to help during the event. To help or for more information about the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament, call Asai at 483-7625/233-5055 or Sasamoto at 898-8155.

# 'Run For Ron' fundraiser on Sunday

By JON PEREZ

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Veteran runner Ronald Villafria is inviting all running enthusiasts to support

him in his fundraising race on Sunday at Micro Beach inside the American Memorial Park.

Dubbed "Run For Ron," the 5-kilometer fun run and walk is Villafria's fundraising event for his scheduled trip to Tokyo, Japan, where he will compete together with lawyer Steve Pixlev in the 2008 Mt. Fuji Marathon or Fuji Tozan race on July 25.

The entrance fee is \$10 with registration starting at 5:30am and the race begins 30 minutes after that. Close to 30 have already pre-registered while other local organizations will also let their members join the event.

Registration forms are available at Coco's Restaurant in Garapan or at Romy's Auto Glass Pro in Beach Road.

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com

the top male and female finishers while other prizes are at stake for the second and third placers as well as age group winners. An event T-shirt will also be given to the first 100 finishers.

A number of individual and local businesses also threw in their support to Villafria donating prizes that would be given away in the raffle. A ticket only cost \$1 each.

Throwing in their support are Hard Rock Café, Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation, Pacific Islands Club, LBT Appraisal, Saipan Grand Hotel, Auto Glass Pro, Filipino Bikers Association, Marianas Trekking, Cappricciosa and Tony Roma's, Johnny's Bar, Godfather's, Jazy Sports Wear Guam, and the Saipan Tribune.

The 13 additional sponsors join Pixley, Eli Arago, Ariel Mariano, Susan Espanillo, gal Department, Shirley's Cof-

Trophies will be awarded to fee Shop, CTSI, DFS Galleria, SaipanCell Communications, Coca-Cola Micronesia, PTI, and Marianas Brokers Inc. as individual or corporate sponsors for Villafria's fundraising event.

> The course to be used is the same course in the Club Elan 5K Fun Run organized recently by Hyatt Regency Saipan's Club Elan.

Villafria said he is thankful for all sponsors who helped him in organizing the race.

Villafria also talked to Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong to help him in recording the times of the participants.

He said he expects all running enthusiasts on Saipan, who regularly join various races on the island, NMA athletes, and NMITF members will also take part in his fivekilometer fun run.

The Mt. Fuji Marathon or Fiesta Resort & Spa, Coco's Fuji Tozan Race is composed Restaurant, Tan Holdings Le- of two legs, a 15-kilometer race to the fifth station of the

# PTI helps Run For Ron

Local athlete Ronald Villafria is little more than two months away from competing in Japan, and his fundraising efforts for the 2008 Mt. Fuji Marathon recently received a boost when PTI joined his sponsorship bandwagon.

After hearing about Villafria's quest for the ultimate Japanese challenge, PTI provided numerous prizes for this Sunday's Race For Ron 5km Fun Run, as well as some special gear for the race's namesake.

With its unmatched local cellular and top quality long distance service, PTI touts itself as "Your connection to the world!" After outfitting Villafria with a company hat and Tshirt, PTI helped Saipan's super athlete stay in touch with his friends in the CNMI by providing him with a long distance card.

PTI long distance cards can be used from the CNMI, Guam, the United States, the Philippines, and Japan, and callers can reach out to anywhere in the world. That works well for Villafria, who plans to use his PTI long distance card after the marathon on Friday, July 25.

Registration for this Sunday's Race For Ron 5km Fun Run begins at 5:30am at the Micro Beach



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PTI Marketing Associate Brad Ruszala presents Ronald Villafria with some PTI gear and a bag of prizes for this weekend's Race For Ron 5km Fun Run.

pavilion with a 6am start time. The cost to help send Villafria to Japan is just \$10 per person and includes a commemorative T-shirt and the chance to take home one of numerous prizes from PTI and the race's other sponsors. (PR)

mountain and a 21-km race all the way to the top. The final six kilometers of the race is also a trail run.

# **RGA May Ace tomorrow**



Golf Association will hold its May Ace of the Month Tournament to-

morrow, May 10, at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course.

Tournament director Jess Wabol said check-in time for the event is 11:30am with tee off set 30 minutes later at 12pm. As many as 16 players can play in the weekend golf game.

Score to beat in the May Ace is Joe Demapan's net score of 65 he fired during the 6<sup>th</sup> NMC Foundation Open held last April 26 at the Kagman venue.

In related news, RGA reminded the public that that the club has halved its membership dues

The Refaluwasch for 2008 from the long-standing fee of \$50 to only \$25.

This happened after RGA recognized the hard economic times and decided to give its members and future members a break by slashing the cost of becoming part of RGA.

The club hopes that by making membership in RGA a little lighter in the pocket, more weekend warriors will now return to the golf links and renew their membership or apply as new members of the golf club.

For more information about RGA's new membership policies and other competitions held by the club, contact president Adam Hardwicke at 483-2326 or Wabol at 233-3673. (Mark Rabago)

Veteran grapplers will be featured in the main event of Saturday's Art of War II All Island Grappling/Submission Tournament to be held Trench Tech Purebred Saipan Gym's new facility in San Antonio.

The tournament will start at 10am and will run up to 5pm. Food and drinks will be on sale to all fans.

Trench Tech's Tetsuji Kato will face Luis "The Shredder" Blanco in the superfight while Fokai International's Roman Dela Cruz

# Art of War II this Saturday

will go up against Gabe Baker of in trying to force him to sub-Carlson Gracie Academy in the Superduper match.

also at stake the whole day. Matches are

TRENCH TRECH not full contact. Punching and kicking are not allowed.

Jujitsu practitioners wear the gi or kimono, as it is traditionally called, during a match. The gi can be used as leverage or a weapon against your opponent mission by choking.

Interested competitors can A lot of no gi matches are still register anytime before today at the Trench Tech gym from 5pm to 8pm. The

entrance fee is \$20 per player. Tickets have been on sale since the last week of April for the all-island grappling and submission challenge. Trench Tech's new gym is lo-

cated at the back of the Labor

and Immigration building in San Antonio.

Tickets are also available at Boarderline, Trench Tech Gym, and 670 Rock Steady Shop for only \$5.

All Trench Tech events will now be held at Trench Tech's new gym at Afetnas Square in San Antonio, which is an airconditioned 15,708-sq.-ft. facility that has a seating capacity of 1,500 to 2,000 fans.

After the Art of War II, the next MMA event by Alvarez is Trench Warz VIII in June.

For more information, call Alvarez at 483-4MMA or 4662.

**44** FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008

four major islands of the

Marianas chain will be represented in the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament set for May 17 in the waters around Saipan.

Saipan Tribune Sports

### Kobe's 34 points help Lakers beat Jazz

The Los Angeles Lakers celebrated Kobe Bryant's MVP award the best way possible. Bryant had 34 points, eight rebounds and six assists Wednesday night, and the Lakers beat the Utah Jazz 120-110.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **SOCC breaks record in Tinian Crossing**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club members that paddled to Tinian and back during the 3rd Annual Tinian Crossing pose for a group shot after reaching Kilili Beach Sunday. Inset, members of the team paddle across the Tinian Channel.

By JON PEREZ

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addlers from the Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club overcame fatigue and the rough channel in last Sunday's 3rd Annual Tinian Crossing, which coincided with the San Jose Fiesta in Saipan's island neighbor.

Steersman Richard Sikkel, in an interview yesterday, said the hardest part of the annual challenge is going back to Saipan. "The winds are troublesome for the canoes. The canoes can take smaller waves since they just roll past it but it is hard to paddle against the swells."

Despite the wind conditions Team SOCC bested their last year's record of three hours and 33 minutes by reaching Kilili Beach Park in 3:14, which was nine minutes longer than their crossing going to Tinian at 3:09.

"Paddling to Tinian is always different every single year but it is always easy on the first day. The first day is usually relatively easy going with the wind and

swells in the back. The hardest part is going back to Saipan since you are going against the wind. It was calm at first but once you enter the channel that is when things got rough," said Sikkel.

Sikkel was also impressed with the Guam team that joined them this year since they paddled to and from Tinian with seven women as part of their nine-

The Guam women is composed of Atshun Amori, Natalie Calvo, Julie Shane, Nancy Greider, Michelle Calvo, and Melissa Langford. They have anoth-

er female crew that joined

two male paddlers.

"Guam has really strong paddlers.
They have a strong women's program. Last year they also joined us,"
Sikkel said.

The SOCC paddlers that joined Sik-

kel in the crossing were Jim Sirok, Gil Birnbrich, Cooper Schraudenbach, Rita Bonici, Sonny Downer, Leon Leonard, Dave Palacios, and Brian Eckert.

Tinian senator Jude Hofschneider also joined SOCC in their paddle going to Tinian to join his constituents in time for the celebration.

Rob Jordan, Eric Lister, and Joe Przyuski were on the chase boats captained by Dan Westphal and Morito Asai.

Sikkel said the canoes were able to fit a six-man crew while the three alternates stayed on the chase boat. They changed paddlers every 15 minutes in the middle of the sea where one crew

See SOCC on Page 42

# Champions crowned in badminton meet

By JON PEREZ

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Six pairs and one singles player in the seven divisions were crowned on Championship Tuesday in

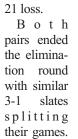
the Inaugural Michelob Ultra Badminton Tournament at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The inaugural tournament is supported in part by Michelob-MARPAC, At Your Service, SaipanCell, JET Holdings, PMIC, Serenity Salon, Elegance Café, NIC, Canton Restaurant, National Office Supply, Makeover Beauty Salon, Megavision, Venus Beauty Salon, Vargas Construction, Esolutions Inc., Philippine Consul General Wilfredo Maximo, and N.C. Matsumoto.

Leading the list of winners are Priyantha Wijayaguharatne, who won two titles in the men's A singles and doubles events. He defeated Ryan Achas in the men's singles finals with a masterful 21-5, 21-12 win.

Wijayaguharatne added to Achas'

woes when he teamed up with John Nguyen in foiling his bid in the men's doubles. Achas paired with Lito Mendoza and they suffered a 14-21, 18-21-18-21



Achas and



lto

Cielo

Mendoza won their first round encounter, but Nguyen and Wijayaguharatne and countered in the final day of the elimination with a 17-21, 21-13, 21-10 triumph.

In the men's B doubles, Joseph Santos and Alvin Alvarez overcame a slow start to pull off a 20-22, 21-14, 21-16 win over the pair of Roger Vales and Saul Gargallo.

Gargallo and Vales were coming off a 31-26 semifinal win over the duo of Robert Reyes and Gerry Balarao, who met Ariel Mariano and Sherwin Samson in the battle for third place.

Babes Cielo and Loida Ito completed their amazing run with a hard-earned 21-16, 15-21, 21-19 triumph over Marlene Peraja and Emily Vargas in the women's B finals.

Cielo and Ito opened the tournament with a 31-28 loss against Camille Samonte and Merlie Savellano but bounced back with five straight wins to earn a slot in the finals where they met See CHAMPIONS on Page 42

# Split for McDonald's in Little League

By JON PEREZ

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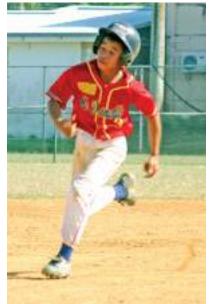


Team McDonald's split their games for the week in the Majors division of the Saipan Little League at the

Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Field. McDonald's squeeze out a 9-7 win over Hustlers II on Wednesday to bounce back from a 12-2 shellacking they suffered from defending champion Saipan-Cell Hustlers on Tuesday afternoon.

JON PER

A Team McDonald's member runs toward third base in this file photo taken in one of their games in the Majors division of the Saipan Little League at the Miguel Basa "Ten Ge" Pangelinan Field.



On Wednesday, Jared Lizama lasted 4 1/4 innings on the mound before being replaced after reaching the 85-pitch count limit. He was tagged with seven hits including a third inning three-run inside-the-park home run to Jonathan Villagomez, but struck out seven batters and walking four more.

Jonathan Rangamar pitched 1 3/4 no-hit innings in relief fanning three and walking two.

Kindo Villagomez went 2-for-3 with one run and drove in two runs, while Rangamar also went 2-for-3 scoring twice with one double and a triple. Josh Villagomez and Marino Ngeskebei combined for 3-for-7 in batting touching home plate three times. Villagomez had a triple while Ngeskebei had an RBI.

See SPLIT on Page 42

# Majors to use two fields next week

By JON PEREZ jon\_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Starting next week, all games in the Majors division of the Saipan L i t 1 e League will be played at the Miguel Basa "Tan



Ge" Pangelinan and San Vicente Elementary School fields.

This means that games will be See MAJORS on Page 42